

DOH Questions for More Information from CMS

DOH Response:

Question 1: Can CMS clarify what it means by wide-ranging? We are hoping to identify children before they have multiple functional limitations secondary to their trauma exposure. If a child has been exposed to multiple traumatic events but only has one functional limitation (but is at risk for developing more), we would like to be able to care manage them in a Health Home. We believe the goal of identifying children early, before they develop wide-ranging impacts from trauma exposure, is very important.

Question 2: Infants, as well as some older children with very recent new-onset trauma, will not have developed any long-term impacts from the exposure. CMS indicated in earlier conversations that its intent was not to exclude these children from the definition of complex trauma, or at least, not to exclude them from the health home. CMS indicated it would provide a qualifying statement. Can CMS please provide that statement?

CMS Response:

2703 ACA statute clearly states that health homes are for Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic conditions. So unfortunately, a child needs to have a chronic condition captured under SED or meet the guidance requirements in the complex trauma definition provided by SAMHSA. "Complex trauma" is different than a child who experiences a traumatic event. CMS provided further materials to the state from SAMHSA which the state should use for assessing children eligible for health homes.