GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

Georgia Medicaid Quick Reference Guide:

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

The 21st Century Cures Act and EVV

In December 2016, the 114th US Congress enacted the **21st Century Cures Act**. Section 12006 of the Act requires states to implement **Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)** for Medicaid-financed Personal Care Services and Home Health Care Services by January 1, 2021 and January 1, 2023, respectively.

The 21st Century Cures Act requires states to implement EVV to avoid an escalating reduction in federal funding match. Under the Act, and with CMS approval, EVV systems operated by the State or a contractor on behalf of the State qualifies for enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) matching funds (90% for implementation, 75% for ongoing costs). The 21st Century Cures Act will change the way home health agencies deliver services. The act sets new mandates for states to establish policies for EVV of Medicaid-funded home care. Notably, the dollar amount of improper Medicaid payments has more than doubled since 2013; increasing to \$29.1 billion in fiscal 2019 from \$14.4 billion in fiscal 2013. The Cures Act seeks to fight Medicaid fraud and improve member quality through implementing EVV systems to provide accountability of services rendered.

What is Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)?

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) is a technology that automates the gathering of service information by capturing time, attendance, and care plan information entered by a home care worker at the point of care. EVV gives providers, care coordinators, and DCH access to service delivery information in real time to ensure there are no gaps in care throughout the entire course of the service plan. The technology contributes to Georgia Medicaid's mission of providing access to affordable, quality health care services for Medicaid members. With respect to personal care services or home health care services, EVV electronically verifies the:

- Type of service performed;
- Individual receiving the service;
- Individual providing the service;
- Date the service was provided;
- Location of service delivery; and
- Time the service begins and ends.

Providers can contact DCH at:

The Department of Community Health (DCH) Email: evv.medicaid@dch.ga.gov Web: <u>www.dch.georgia.gov</u>

