

**To: The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI)**  
**From: Texas Health and Human Services System**  
**Date: September 17, 2019**

**Re: Letter of Intent – Qualified Ambulance Service Provider/Supplier Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport (ET3) Model Applicant**

The Texas Health and Human Services System (HHS) is interested in working with emergency medical services providers to explore including Texas Medicaid in this model. HHS has been in discussions with ambulance service providers regarding CMMI's ET3 pilot initiative and is interested in whether there are opportunities to improve patient outcomes, improve the experience of care for our members, and help them navigate the healthcare options available to them when they activate 911 for medical care.

The ET3 payment model initiative will allow Texans to be assessed, treated, and navigated to clinically appropriate follow-up care during 9-1-1 encounters. Additionally, the model allows for Texans to be treated in place through online telehealth by a Qualified Healthcare Provider. Lastly, the model allows Texans to be transported to alternate destinations such as: urgent care facilities, primary care physicians, and other care settings for emergency room mitigation if deemed clinically appropriate.

The timeline for the implementation of the ET3 project makes it difficult to finalize the details of developing a Medicaid payment model around ET3. However, we will continue conversations with approved ET3 providers, which may lead to a payment model that aligns with the goals of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) ET3 model.

We look forward to engaging further with CMS and Texas emergency medical services providers on this opportunity. Please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information. Dee Budgewater, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Policy and Program, serves as lead on this matter and can be reached via phone at (512) 462-6292 or by email at [Dee.Budgewater@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Dee.Budgewater@hhsc.state.tx.us).

**Non Participating Partner Information:**

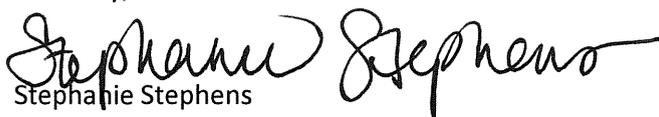
Legal Name: State of Texas, Health and Human Services Commission

Correspondence Address: 4900 North Lamar Boulevard, Austin, TX, 78751

Type of Plan: Medicaid

Capacity to Align with ET3: It is the intent of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to work closely with any participating ambulance providers to determine effective methods of aligning Medicaid with the goals of ET3.

Sincerely,

  
Stephanie Stephens  
Deputy State Medicaid Director