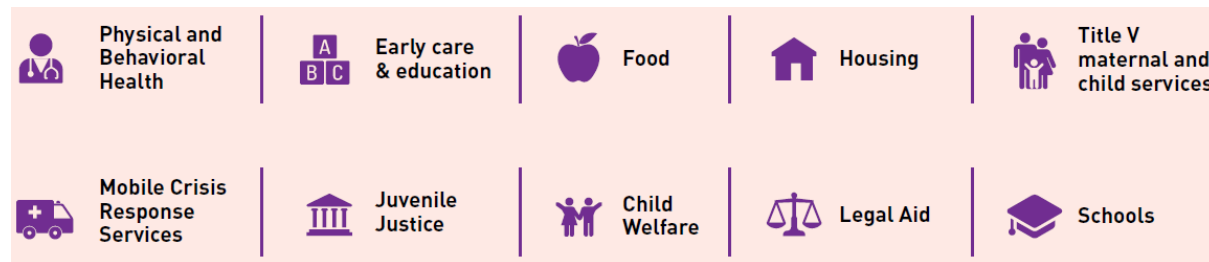


NC InCK Health Care Provider Frequently Asked Questions

What is North Carolina Integrated Care for Kids (NC InCK)?

North Carolina Integrated Care for Kids (NC InCK) is a new government-funded model aimed at improving the way children and families receive care and support services. **NC InCK will launch for all Medicaid-insured children from birth to age 20 in Alamance, Orange, Durham, Granville, and Vance counties on January 1, 2022.** NC InCK is funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). NC InCK aims to create a value-based system that promotes **integrated care** for children and families across ten core service areas that improve outcomes for children and families, while decreasing cost of care and reducing structural inequities.



How will NC InCK support and bridge services where children live, learn, and play?

To achieve **high value care** and positive **developmental and health outcomes** for children and youth, we need a system that addresses and resources not only physical and behavioral health, but goes beyond the walls of the clinic and addresses the social and educational needs of children and their families.

Specifically, NC InCK will pursue these goals by:

- **More holistically understanding the needs of children** by bringing together data from health, social, and educational sectors that will identify children and youth who could benefit from additional support.
- **Supporting and bridging services for children** with higher needs, facilitating collaboration between NC InCK Integration Consultants, who have experience navigating core child service areas, and Family Navigators, who provide direct care management support to children and families. Care Teams will be convened around children with higher needs and streamlined, family-driven, and action-oriented care plans, known as Shared Action Plans (SAPs), will be created for coordinated action among families and their team members.
- **Focusing on healthcare investments** by implementing an Alternative Payment Model that links health care payments to more meaningful measures of well-being, including those that address structural inequities and create more flexibility for providers.

How will NC InCK impact children and families?

Medicaid- or CHIP-insured children in NC InCK's five counties who face increased risks will have access to additional support through their Family Navigator. This will support practices in ensuring that each child

has **coordinated and well-resourced care** across sectors. More children will be elevated for the care management support, so providers and practices can ensure children experience **improved outcomes**

through integrated service. Cross-sector Care Teams will be convened for patients with higher needs, improving **communication and coordination**, and placing the focus on each family's health and well-being goals.

How will NC InCK impact practices?

Providers and practices will regularly receive **actionable data on novel child-centered measures**, such as rates of Kindergarten Readiness and chronic absenteeism among NC InCK members attributed to specific practices. The NC InCK APM will promote child-centered care by linking payment to the delivery of high-quality and cost-efficient care. They also give practices the flexibility to best meet the needs of their patients. This includes providing services that may not traditionally be reimbursed in fee-for-service payment approaches (e.g., coordinating care for social needs).

How can providers participate in InCK?

Any health care provider caring for NC InCK-attributed child can participate in NC InCK. PHPs and CCNCs will be sharing lists of patients served by NC InCK with practices. Additionally, all health care providers will have access to NC InCK resources that assist in understanding and accessing services in other sectors.

Practices and providers can engage in events related to holistic measures of child health and well-being with technical support from the NC InCK team.

How is NC InCK related to Medicaid Transformation?

NC InCK has been designed in close collaboration with North Carolina Medicaid and aligns with many aspects of Medicaid Transformation (e.g., risk stratification, care management services, quality measures). NC InCK builds upon Medicaid Transformation's focus on whole person health with the addition of Integration Consultants, tools, and measures that drive improved holistic outcomes for children and their families. NC InCK is overseen in partnership with NC Medicaid to ensure seamless integration with broader transformation activities.

NC InCK is distinct from the [Healthy Opportunities Pilots](#). NC InCK is operating in five specific counties (Alamance, Durham, Granville, Orange, and Vance) that do not overlap with the counties awarded the HOP. The funding that supports NC InCK is different from the funding for the HOP.

To learn more:

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