An informational bulletin was released June 1, 2016, by federal Medicaid officials to inform states how to use Medicaid funds to help states and territories to prevent, detect and respond to the Zika virus.

For instance, states could choose to cover the costs of over-the-counter insect repellants if prescribed by a health care professional. Additional family planning counseling can be a tool to prevent the spread of the Zika virus and can be covered. These family planning services are eligible for 90 percent federal matching.

Managed care plans, at their discretion, may choose to provide products (such as repellents) and services (including home inspections and window screens). The states may not mandate these additional services.

CSG will broadcast a webinar on June 7, 2 p.m., which will focus on southern states that are most at risk of locally-transmitted Zika, but includes a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention expert to provide the latest scientific understanding of Zika. Click here for the full webinar description and click here to register.