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Department of Health Care Services



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**Department of Health Care Services
Medi-Cal Managed Care
Advisory Group Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2015**

1. Medi-Cal Managed Care Introductions

Nathan Nau called the meeting of the Advisory Group (AG) to order at [insert time] and welcomed all in attendance and those participating via the bridgeline.

2. New Department of Health Care Services Executive Staff Announcement

Jennifer Kent, Director
Claudia Crist, Deputy Director
Hannah Katch, Assistant Deputy Director

3. 1115 Waiver Update

Wendy So provided a brief update on DHCS' waiver renewal application process. The waiver is comprised of three core components: (1) shared savings with the federal government to be reinvested into the Medi-Cal program; (2) a set of delivery system transformation and alignment programs; and (3) a redesign of reimbursement methods for public hospital systems that is tied to providing care for the remaining uninsured. The application will be formally submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for consideration at the end of March. Please email suggestions, questions or comments to WaiverRenewal@dhcs.ca.gov.

4. Performance Dashboard Update

Aaron Toyama announced the newest version of the Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard, released on March 5, 2015. The dashboard data is preliminary and subject to change. Future requests to enhance high quality data are welcomed and encouraged.

5. Network Adequacy Project

Nathan Nau and Larry Lucero provided an overview of project concepts and timeframes. The network adequacy monitoring project will leverage encounter data to improve, transform and streamline current reporting standards. DHCS envisions automating information such as PCP and Specialty availability across all plans in each county, beneficiary/provider mapping (ensuring time and distance standards are met), and new areas of modernization such as Telehealth and mobile services. Testing and operation of the network adequacy monitoring project will begin late 2015. Stakeholder feedback, questions and comments are strongly encouraged.

6. Managed Care Organization (MCO) Tax Bill Update

In July 2014, CMS determined the MCO tax was not permissible per federal law. As Pilar Williams explained, the proceeds from this tax were to be appropriated to DHCS for the Medi-Cal Managed Care Program. DHCS intends to pursue concepts to extend the MCO tax and meet CMS' standards for approval.

7. Trailer Bill Language

Carrie Allison provided a summary of two DHCS trailer bills; both are pending review and approval. Bill 640 - Annual Health Plan Open Enrollment would allow a beneficiary to change plans consistent with Covered California's annual open enrollment period. Any requested changes after the open enrollment period shall be for good cause only, with a few exceptions. Bill 642 – Modification of MRMIP would require DHCS to provide health coverage under MRMIP on a modified basis. Individuals who are ineligible for health coverage through Covered California or full scope Medi-Cal benefits would be allowed to apply.

8. Mobile Vision

Bambi Cisneros announced the implementation of Mobile Vision Services, effective January 1, 2015. SB 870 required DHCS to begin the onsite school program within Los Angeles County to demonstrate the value and increased access and utilization to Medi-Cal children. Covered services include vision examinations and frames.

9. Managed Care Operations Division Updates

Javier Portela discussed the Request For Application (RFA) process for Sacramento County. This is for new applicants only and the go-live date is scheduled for January 2016.

10. Open Discussion

Ongoing Improvements to Medi-Cal Managed Care

Praise was received for the Performance Dashboard and Network Adequacy Project.

Low Income Health Plan (LIHP)/Expansion population

As the transitional LIHP populations eligibility is re-determined by the county, there may be a shift in the performance dashboard reporting. This occurs when an aid code changes, therefore causing a shift from LIHP to expansion population aid codes.

Palliative Care SB 1004

The next stakeholder/webinar meeting is scheduled on April 13, 2015 from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Individuals interested in attending may register through the Department of Health Care Services website. To be added to the stakeholder distribution list, or to send comments or questions, please contact the following email address:

SB1004@dhcs.ca.gov .

Managed Care Plan (MCP) Foster Children Contact Listing

An updated list of contacts for foster children receiving services through a MCP will be distributed after completion.

Upcoming Advisory Group Meetings will be held in the first floor conference room at 1501 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95814. All meetings will begin at 10:00am on June 11th, September 10th, and December 10th.