

**Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)  
California Children's Services (CCS)  
Advisory Group Meeting  
April 12, 2023  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**DHCS Members Attended:** Michelle Baass; Susan Philip, Joseph Billingsley, Cortney Maslyn, Amara Bahramiaref, Annette Lee, Megan Sharpe, Kirstie Yi, Barbara Sasaki, Francis Harville, Dr. Jill Abramson, Steven Cueto, Janeen Newman, Dr. Maria Jocson, Dr. Shaw Natsui and Carrie Whitaker

**Advisory Group Stakeholder Members Attended:** Allison Gray, Amy Westling, Dr. Anthony Magit, Carol Miller, Dena Davis, Francesca Peterson, Jennifer Mockus, Dr. Jerry Cheng, Kelly Hardy, Lara Khouri, Kristen Dimou, Laurie Soman, Lianna Chen, Dr. Mary Giammona, Michael Hunn, Michelle Gibbons, Dr. Miriam Parsa, Stephanie Dansker and Susan Skotzke

**Guest Presenters:** Dr. Megumi Okumura, University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and Meredith Wurden, Sellers Dorsey LLC

**CCS Advisory Group Meeting Materials:** Agenda and Slide Deck

**AGENDA**

**I. Welcome and Housekeeping  
*Joseph Billingsley, Asst. Deputy Director  
Department of Health Care Services***

Welcomed participants and introduced three (3) new stakeholder members: Linnea Koopmans of Local Health Plans of California (LHPC), Jolie Onodera of California Association of Counties and Dr. Miriam Parsa of Cottage Children's Medical Center of Santa Barbara. The retirement of Pip Marks, Family Voices, was recognized.

***Barbara Sasaki, Chief  
Special Populations Section***

Reviewed housekeeping items

**II. Department Updates, Roll Call and January Meeting Recap**  
***Michelle Baass, Director***  
***Department of Health Care Services***

Director Michelle Baass gave an update on Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment and the recent program name change to Medi-Cal for Kids and Teens and updates on the continuing release of outreach and education materials toward the goal of ensuring children get the right care at the right time in the right place. Additionally, she discussed Enhanced Care Management (ECM) is beginning in July 2023 for children and youth populations of focus. To support this effort the DHCS continues to implement the Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) initiative.

***Barbara Sasaki, Chief***  
***Special Populations Section***

Conducted a roll call of CCS Advisory Group members and provided the January 2023 meeting recap.

**III. Policy Initiatives**

**CalAIM CCS Monitoring and Oversight Workgroup Update**  
***Meredith Wurden, Consultant***  
***Sellers Dorsey***

Provided a CCS Monitoring and Oversight Workgroup and Child Health Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program Transition Workgroup updates.

**IV. Whole Child Model (WCM) Implementation Update**  
***Joseph Billingsley, Asst. Deputy Director***  
***Department of Health Care Services***

Provided an update on WCM Implementation noting a trailer bill has been proposed by DHCS to implement WCM in the following counties:

Effective January 1, 2024: Colusa, Glenn, Nevada, Plumas, Sierra, Sutter, Tehama. Yuba, Mariposa, San Benito

Effective January 1, 2025: Placer, Butte, Alameda, Contra Costa, Imperial

Kaiser will implement in the following proposed new WCM counties:  
Effective January 1, 2024: Sutter, Yuba, Mariposa  
Effective January 1, 2025: Placer, Contra Costa, Alameda, Imperial

**V. Transition to Adulthood**  
***Cortney Maslyn, Chief***  
***Integrated Systems of Care Division***

Provided an update on the creation of a frequently asked questions document for members, providers and counties to serve as a guidance tool and resource document for children and youth transitioning to adult care. The first document will be focused on members.

**VI. CalAIM ECM for Children and Youth Update**  
***Dr. Shaw Natsui, Medical Consultant II***  
***Quality Population Health Management***

Provided an update on ECM activities including information about Population Health Management (PHM), ECM Core Services, who ECM is for, populations of focus for ECM, how families will access ECM for their children and some of the roles and responsibilities for the Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans (MCP) for ECM.

Dr. Natsui shared a limited list of entities that are considered ECM providers (i.e., primary care providers, local health departments, Indian Health Services Programs, Specialty Care Centers for CCS children, hospitals, community-based organizations) and a list of ECM Core Services (i.e., Outreach and Engagement, Comprehensive Assessment & Care Management, Enhanced Coordination of Care, Health Promotion, Comprehensive Transitional Care, Member and Family support, coordination of and referral to community/social support services).

**VII. Whole Child Model (WCM) Evaluation**  
***Joseph Billingsley, Asst. Deputy Director***  
***Department of Health Care Services***

Dr. Megumi Okumura, of University of California San Francisco (UCSF) reviewed the methodology, results and conclusions of the Whole Child Model Evaluation, independently conducted by UCSF in 2022.

**Action item:** Schedule a follow-up meeting with Advisory Group members to further review the evaluation results.

**VIII. Public Comment and Closing**  
***Joseph Billingsley, Asst. Deputy Director***  
***Department of Health Care Services***

Provided closing remarks and announced the date of the next meeting on July 12, 2023.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM**  
**MEETING SUMMARY ADDENDUM**

**Due to time constraints the following CCS Program Updates were not presented. Updates are provided below.**

**Title V Needs Assessment**

- Federal legislation dictates Title V Needs Assessments (NA) must occur every 5 years. DHCS is supporting the assessment process; in partnership with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) who is the lead Title V agency.
- Per Federal recommendation, over the past five (5) years, substantial effort has been put forth to include all Child and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN).
- CYSHCN will be folded into the overall NA without a separate process specific to CCS, and will be reflected in the upcoming NA.
- An in-depth presentation of the NA process will be discussed at the July CCS Advisory Group meeting.

**Guidance Documents**

The following guidance documents have been posted and distributed.

- Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems Numbered Letter (NL)
- Low Protein Therapeutic Food (LPTF) Information Notice
- Medical Necessity Determination NL

The following guidance documents will be distributed soon for external Stakeholder review and feedback.

- Transplants NL
- WCM NL
- Inter-County Transfer NL
- Medical Therapy Program Duplication of Services NL
- Rheumatology Special Care Center Standards

**Continuous Coverage Unwinding**

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 included various Medicaid and Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provisions, including changes to the continuous coverage requirement, which no longer links to the COVID-19 PHE as of April 1, 2023.

- Continuous coverage requirements ended on March 31, 2023, and the unwinding of the continuous coverage requirement began April 1, 2023.
- On April 1, 2023, Medi-Cal redeterminations began for individuals with a June 2023 renewal month.
- DHCS' goal is to minimize member burden and promote continuity of coverage.
- DHCS engaged community partners to serve as DHCS Coverage Ambassadors. Coverage Ambassadors are trusted messengers, made up of diverse organizations, that can reach members in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways, and deliver important messages to Medi-Cal members about maintaining Medi-Cal coverage after the Continuous Coverage Requirement ends. Coverage Ambassadors will also connect Medi-Cal members at the local level with targeted and impactful communication.
  - Ambassadors may include, but are not limited to:
    - Local County Offices
    - Health Navigators
    - MCPs
    - Community Organizations
    - Advocates
    - Stakeholders
    - Providers
    - Clinics/Healthcare Facilities
    - Legislative Offices/Other State Agencies
- DHCS is committed to maximizing continuity of coverage for Medi-Cal beneficiaries through the course of the Continuous Coverage Unwinding Period. A key goal is to keep the Continuous Coverage Unwinding process as simple as possible for county eligibility offices. When Counties and MCPs have contact with a beneficiary or their family, updated beneficiary contact information should be obtained.
- Medi-Cal members can visit [KeepMediCalCoverage.org](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Programs/Pages/KeepMediCalCoverage.aspx) to update their information, find their local county office or sign up to receive email/text updates from DHCS.

### **CCS/WCM Dashboard and Workgroup Update**

- The integrated CCS/WCM Dashboard and CCS/WCM Quality Dashboard can be located at [WCM Dashboard \(ca.gov\)](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Programs/Pages/WCMDashboard.aspx)
- The CCS Quality Metrics Workgroup will work with external stakeholders to identify and improve health outcomes and quality of care for children and youth.
- The statewide Medi-Cal Child Core Set Measures presentation from the January CCS Advisory Group meeting is currently available at [WCM Dashboard \(ca.gov\)](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Programs/Pages/WCMDashboard.aspx).
  - The Core measure set dashboard will evolve as a result of the CCS Quality Metrics Workgroup.