



Medi-Cal Rx Status Update – May 2021

June 1, 2021

As previously reported, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has delayed the planned Go-Live date for Medi-Cal Rx. Currently there is no set date for implementation. DHCS is reviewing conflict of interest concerns brought about by Centene Corporation's (Centene's) announced plan to acquire Magellan Health, Inc., the parent company of Magellan Medicaid Administration, Inc. (MMA), the contracted vendor for Medi-Cal Rx. Centene operates – through subsidiaries – managed care plans and pharmacies that participate in Medi-Cal. This transaction requires additional time for exploration of acceptable conflict avoidance protocols to ensure that there will be acceptable firewalls between the corporate entities to protect the pharmacy claims data of all Medi-Cal beneficiaries, and to protect other proprietary information. Medi-Cal Rx remains of utmost importance to the State of California as a tool to standardize the Medi-Cal pharmacy benefit statewide under one delivery system and as a means to improve access to pharmacy services with a network that includes approximately 94 percent of the state's pharmacies. DHCS anticipates providing further updates as additional information becomes available.