Stakeholder Communication Update

June 2018

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is pleased to share this bimonthly update of important events and actions at the Department. If you are not a subscriber and would like to receive these updates, please sign up on the DHCS website. Check out the Calendar of Events for specific meetings and events, or visit the Stakeholder Engagement Directory for listings by program. You also can view our State Plan Amendments (SPA), and find the most recent data on Medi-Cal enrollment here. For questions, concerns, or suggestions, contact us at DHCSPress@dhcs.ca.gov. And be sure to follow DHCS on social media, too. Thanks!

Medi-Cal Dental Stakeholder Meetings

The next quarterly Sacramento Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2018, and the next Medi-Cal Dental Los Angeles Stakeholder meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2018. DHCS provides updates on available dental utilization data, the progress of the Dental Transformation Initiative, Medi-Cal dental benefits, and ongoing outreach efforts, among other topics. Additional stakeholder information is available on the DHCS website.

Assembly Bill (AB) 340 Trauma Screening Advisory Workgroup

On June 21, 2018, DHCS will host the second meeting of the Trauma Screening Advisory Workgroup in Sacramento. AB 340 (Chapter 700, Statutes of 2017) requires DHCS, in consultation with the California Department of Social Services and other partners, to convene a workgroup to update, amend, or develop, if appropriate, tools and protocols for screening children for trauma as defined within the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment benefit. DHCS hosted the initial meeting for this group on April 20, 2018. The agenda and meeting materials are posted on the AB 340 webpage. For any questions or comments, please email AB340@dhcs.ca.gov.

Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel (MCHAP)

The next MCHAP meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2018, in Sacramento. The meeting is expected to include DHCS Director Jennifer Kent's updates on federal and state developments, an update from the Medi-Cal Managed Care Office of the Ombudsman,

and continued discussion of how Medi-Cal managed care health plans communicate with beneficiaries. The MCHAP is a 15-member independent statewide advisory body that advises DHCS on matters relevant to children enrolled in Medi-Cal. To view meeting information, materials, or historical documents, please visit the DHCS [website](#).

DHCS Office of Family Planning Stakeholder Meeting
DHCS will convene its quarterly family planning stakeholder meeting on June 28, 2018, in Los Angeles. The meeting announcement and details are posted on DHCS' Office of Family Planning stakeholder [website](#).

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)
DHCS will host the next SAC meeting on July 18, 2018, in Sacramento. DHCS held the regularly scheduled SAC meeting on May 17. The meeting provided updates on the Governor's revised budget proposal, the latest federal developments, and featured updates on components of the Final Rule, including an in-depth presentation on the Quality Strategy Report, and updates on the California Children's Services Whole Child Model. It also included a presentation on DHCS' Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment portal. The purpose of the SAC is to provide DHCS with feedback on health care policy issues affecting the Department, including Section 1115 waiver implementation efforts. SAC members are recognized stakeholders/experts in their fields, including, but not limited to, member advocacy organizations and representatives of various Medi-Cal provider groups. To view meeting information, materials, or historical documents, please visit the DHCS [website](#).

Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) Waiver Renewal
DHCS and the California Department of Aging (CDA) are convening two kick-off meetings to discuss the waiver renewal process and to gather stakeholder feedback in preparation for renewing the MSSP waiver for an additional five-year term. On May 24, 2018, DHCS and CDA held the first meeting, in Northern California; the second meeting, in Southern California, will be held on June 25, 2018. More information about the MSSP can be found on the DHCS [website](#).

Nonmedical Transportation (NMT)
On June 15, 2018, DHCS will publish a Provider Bulletin announcing that fee-for-service (FFS) non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) providers who are currently enrolled with Medi-Cal will be able to submit supplemental forms to DHCS to add passenger vehicles for NMT. In addition, new NMT providers will be able to complete the application process to provide the service. NMT services will be available to eligible FFS beneficiaries with full-scope Medi-Cal and to pregnant women during pregnancy and for 60 days postpartum. NMT will be available beginning on July 1, 2018, for beneficiaries with appointments for medical, dental, mental health, and substance use disorder services, or who need to pick up prescriptions or medical supplies or equipment, and who attest they do not have other forms of transportation available to them. Medi-Cal beneficiaries with managed care receive NMT services from their health plan.

Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)

There are currently eleven counties delivering DMC-ODS services: San Francisco, San Mateo, Riverside, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Los Angeles, Contra Costa, San Luis Obispo, and San Bernardino. The DMC-ODS external quality review organization, Behavioral Health Concepts, is compiling reports for the first two reviews that have been conducted, in San Mateo and Riverside counties. These reports will include baseline data for each of the 12 performance measures identified for the first year of reviews, examining access, timeliness, quality, and network adequacy. UCLA is compiling the DMC-ODS year three evaluation that examines four key areas: access, quality, cost, and integration and coordination of care. The evaluations of years one and two of the DMC-ODS have been used to identify training and technical assistance needs to improve quality. Work with the Partnership HealthPlan, mostly representing Northern California, continues, as does work with the Indian Health Program-ODS. More information about the DMC-ODS is available on the DHCS website.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion Project

California's MAT Expansion Project strategically focuses on populations with limited access to MAT for treating opioid abuse, including rural areas and American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) communities, and increasing statewide access to buprenorphine. The California Hub and Spoke System (CA H&SS) has expanded the network of contracted spokes to more than 150 across more than 35 counties, and delivered prevention and treatment services to approximately 2,000 patients. The Tribal MAT Project for AI/AN populations is launching in summer 2018, which includes the University of California, Los Angeles' (UCLA) Project ECHO, tele-MAT with academic detailing, suicide prevention, and MAT Champions. UCLA is also performing an evaluation of all CA H&SS activities and collaborating with the University of Southern California to perform a needs assessment of the Tribal MAT Project. Additionally, DHCS is partnering with Health Management Associates Inc. for the Expanding MAT in County Criminal Justice Settings project, which includes learning collaboratives for a minimum of 10 county-based teams. These county teams will expand MAT access by providing technical assistance to jails, drug courts, and diversion programs. More information about the MAT Expansion Project is available on the DHCS website.

Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)

DHCS is working to finalize the DPP coverage and reimbursement policies for implementation by January 1, 2019. DHCS continues to collaborate with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and other state Medicaid agencies to learn best practices for the California DPP to develop and refine implementation strategies. DHCS will publish a Provider Bulletin and a Medi-Cal Provider Manual section dedicated to DPP. Both will be posted on the Medi-Cal website this fall. In addition, the Managed Care Quality and Monitoring Division will provide additional guidance to Medi-Cal managed care plans in the future through an All Plan Letter. Additional information about the DPP is available on the DHCS website.

Dental Transformation Initiative (DTI)

The final payment for Domain 1 (preventive care) Program Year (PY) 1 and first payment for PY 2 were issued on February 5, 2018. The second PY 2 payment is scheduled for July 2018. The deadline for safety net clinics (SNCs) to submit DTI Domain 1 encounter data for PY 2 via the proprietary paper form is June 1, 2018. The deadline for SNCs to submit Domain 1 claims via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) for PY 2 is June 22, 2018. From Calendar Year (CY) 2014 to CY 2017, preliminary data showed preventive services utilization increased by a cumulative 7.36 percentage points. The number of Medi-Cal dentists providing preventive dental services to at least ten children increased by 6.07 percent from CY 2014 to CY 2016. The Domain 2 outreach continues, in collaboration with Delta Dental, the California Dental Association, and other interested parties from the DTI small stakeholder workgroup. The outreach includes physical office visits, letters, and phone conversations with providers. Continued Domain 3 (continuity of care) outreach efforts focus on increasing SNC participation, including clinics that participate in Domain 1 and are eligible to participate in Domain 3. The deadline for SNCs to submit claims via EDI for PY 2 is June 22, 2018. The next Domain 3 payment is scheduled for June 2018. For Domain 4, DHCS has executed 13 of the 14 Local Dental Pilot Project (LDPP) contracts. Invoices continue to be submitted for PY 2017, and payments are being distributed. Currently, $4.86 million has been paid to LDPPs for PY 2017. Monthly teleconferences with all LDPPs continue as an opportunity to educate, provide technical assistance, offer support, and address concerns. Additional information about the DTI is available on the DHCS website.

Medicaid Managed Care Quality Strategy Report (QSR)

DHCS held a 30-day public comment period from March 28 to April 27, 2018, on the draft Medi-Cal Managed Care QSR. DHCS is updating the QSR in response to comments and feedback from stakeholders, and will submit the final report to CMS by July 1, 2018. DHCS developed this report in response to the federal Medicaid Managed Care Final Rule, which requires states to develop a comprehensive managed care QSR. The QSR must address the following requirements: the state-defined network adequacy standards; goals and objectives for continuous quality improvement; description of the quality metrics, performance targets, and performance improvement projects; arrangements for annual, external independent reviews; a description of the state's transition of care policy; the state's plan to identify, evaluate, and reduce health disparities, as well as develop policies regarding sanctions; and the state's definition of "significant change." This report covers all Medi-Cal managed care delivery systems, including Medi-Cal managed care plans, county mental health plans, Drug Medi-Cal organized delivery systems, and dental managed care plans. The QSR report can be viewed on the DHCS website.

Whole Child Model (WCM) Implementation

Senate Bill 586 (Chapter 625, Statutes of 2016) authorized DHCS to establish the WCM in 21 designated counties to incorporate California Children's Services (CCS)-covered services into County Organized Health System (COHS) contracts. On April 4, 2018, DHCS hosted a CCS advisory group (AG) quarterly stakeholder meeting to discuss implementation of the WCM. Phase 1 counties are scheduled to implement no sooner

than July 1, 2018, as specified in the [Phase-In Methodology](#). DHCS is undertaking various readiness activities, including reviewing the Memoranda of Understanding between the managed care health plans and counties, health plan deliverables and submissions, and the dissemination of member notices. DHCS mailed the first notice to Phase I beneficiaries in April 2018, and the health plans mailed the second notice to beneficiaries in May 2018. Phase I beneficiaries were scheduled to receive their last notice 30 days before the July 1 implementation. In addition, DCHS hosted an informational webinar to provide an overview of the WCM for beneficiaries and their families. The webinar covered background on the WCM, beneficiary eligibility, participating health plans and counties, available benefits and resources, and the grievance and appeals process. To view the WCM webinar, beneficiary notices, CCS AG meeting agendas, meeting presentations, or for additional WCM information, please visit the DHCS [website.](#)

Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) Renewal

DHCS is committed to engaging in a public process for the renewal of the ALW program. DHCS held two kick-off meetings to discuss the waiver renewal process and to gather stakeholder feedback in preparation for renewing the ALW program for an additional five-year term. In an effort to better accommodate stakeholders, the first meeting was held on May 11, 2018, in Sacramento and the second was held on May 22, 2018, in Los Angeles. Additional information, including future waiver renewal activities, is available on the DHCS [website.](#)

Medi-Cal Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs

On May 24, 2018, DHCS hosted the first of two bi-annual Medi-Cal Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs meetings in Sacramento. Representatives attending included tribal officials, clinic directors, and other designees of Indian health programs. A variety of issues were addressed that impact Indian health providers and Medi-Cal members. To view meeting information, materials, or historical documents, please visit the DHCS [website](#).

CHHS Open Data Portal

DHCS continues to add data to the California Health and Human Services [Open Data Portal](#). The portal includes new data sets, such as dental sealant utilization for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and Medi-Cal enrollment data for former foster youth. It also updates existing data sets, such as eligibility, providers, and carrier codes for other health coverage data. The portal offers access to standardized data that can be easily retrieved, combined, downloaded, sorted, searched, analyzed, redistributed, and re-used by individuals, businesses, researchers, journalists, developers, and government employees to process, trend, and innovate.