

Network Adequacy Evaluation and Monitoring Efforts

Presented by:

Margaret Tatar, Assistant Deputy Director
Health Care Delivery Systems
California Department of Health Care Services

Department of Health Care Services



Introduction

- Today's presentation will cover:
 - Overview of network adequacy standards
 - Program-wide network adequacy review and evaluation
 - Monitoring and future endeavors

Overview of Network Adequacy

- DHCS requirements for network adequacy standards are set forth in:
 - Regulations
 - Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code §14199.1, 14199.2, 14301.5
 - Healthy and Safety (H&S) Code §1367.03(a)-(f)
 - The Knox Keene Act
 - Managed Care Plan Contracts
 - All Plan Letters

Knox-Keene Act Standards

- The Knox-Keene Act of 1975 (Knox-Keene) instituted the Time and Distance Standards as:

*“A PCP must be no more than **15 miles or 30 minutes** from the place of residence or place of work of the member unless the member chooses a different provider outside of this geographic area within the MCP’s service area.”*

Contracts with Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans

- DHCS contractually requires Medi-Cal managed care plans in all delivery models to abide by the Time and Distance Standards
 - Applicable to Two-Plan, GMC, COHS, and Regional models
- Exhibit A, Attachment 6 of the contract reads:

“The contractor shall maintain a network of Primary Care Physicians which are located within thirty (30) minutes or ten (10) miles of a Member’s residence unless the Contractor has a DHCS-approved alternative time and distance standard.”

DHCS All Plan Letters (APL)

- DHCS issues All Plan Letters to inform and communicate policies and requirements.
- APL 13-022 provides information pertaining to the implementation of:
 - Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Sections (§§) 14199.1, 14199.2, and 14301.5
 - Knox-Keene Time and Distance Standards
 - Link to APL 13-022:
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2013/APL13-022.pdf>

Program-Wide Review and Evaluation

- DHCS evaluates access and ensures that Time and Distance Standards are met by:

Conducting readiness reviews

Reviewing quarterly network submissions

Monitoring Grievances and Appeals/State Fair Hearings

Conducting Medical Audits

Interagency Agreements with DMHC

Department of Health Care Services

Readiness Reviews

- DHCS conducts extensive readiness reviews of managed care plans prior to implementation, including when a new benefit is added.
- Includes a thorough review of the network and ensuring that the Time and Distance Standards are met by:
 - Conducting Facility Site Reviews – Site surveys that include on-site inspections and staff interviews
 - Reviewing Deliverables – Plans must provide policies and procedures that describe how they will deliver the benefits and services

Monthly Network Submissions

- Medi-Cal managed care plans submit networks to DHCS for review on a monthly basis.
- DHCS works in partnership with DMHC to review the networks and determine whether adequate providers are available.
 - A specific focus on specialists is conducted when reviewing networks related to care for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (SPDs).
 - The network review looks at specialists serving as the PCP to the SPD, mental health professionals, and physician extenders.

Grievances and Appeals/Fair Hearings

- Medi-Cal managed care plans submit data on member grievances and appeals on a quarterly basis.
- DHCS monitors grievances and appeals to observe if a spike in access complaints occurs at any time.
- DHCS monitors Fair Hearings data to determine if there are any network issues.

Medical Audits

- DHCS conducts medical audits at the Medi-Cal managed care plans to review whether access to care needs are being met.
- Starting in 2015, DHCS Audits and Investigations will visit each health plan annually.

Interagency Agreements (IA)

- DHCS has entered into an Interagency Agreement (IA) with the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) for three transitions:
 - Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
 - Dual Eligible Demonstration
 - Healthy Families and Rural Expansion (Pending)
- The IAs focus on financial audits, medical surveys, and network adequacy reviews.

Specific Program Reviews

- Non-specialty **Mental Health** benefits effective January 1, 2014
 - Provider network adequacy based on the Time and Distance Standards
 - DHCS permitted the use of the telehealth method, particularly in outreach areas
 - Plans were required to submit readiness deliverables alongside DMHC's material modification filing
 - Plans were required to provide attestation to have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs)
 - Plans are required to execute MOUs with the county mental health plans by June 30, 2014

Specific Program Reviews

- **Cal MediConnect**

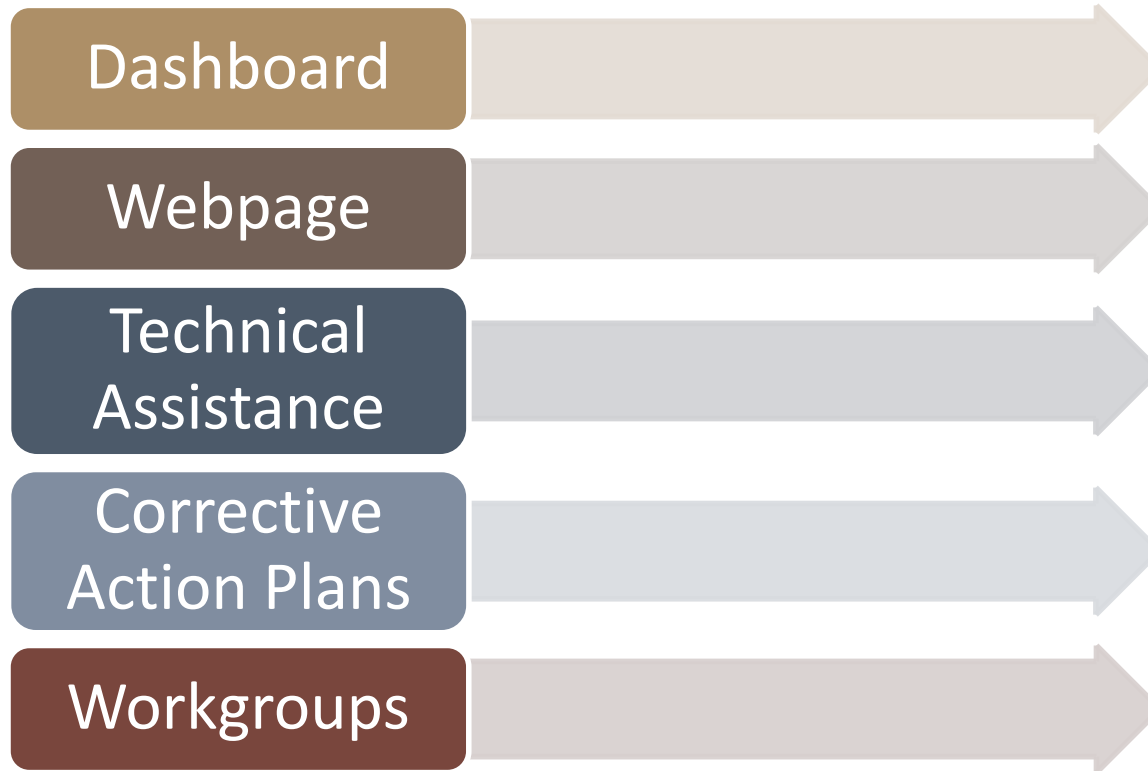
- DHCS worked closely with CMS to ensure plan readiness:
 - CMS reviewed provider networks for Medicare
 - DHCS reviewed networks for Medi-Cal through established processes as discussed in previous slides

Specific Program Reviews

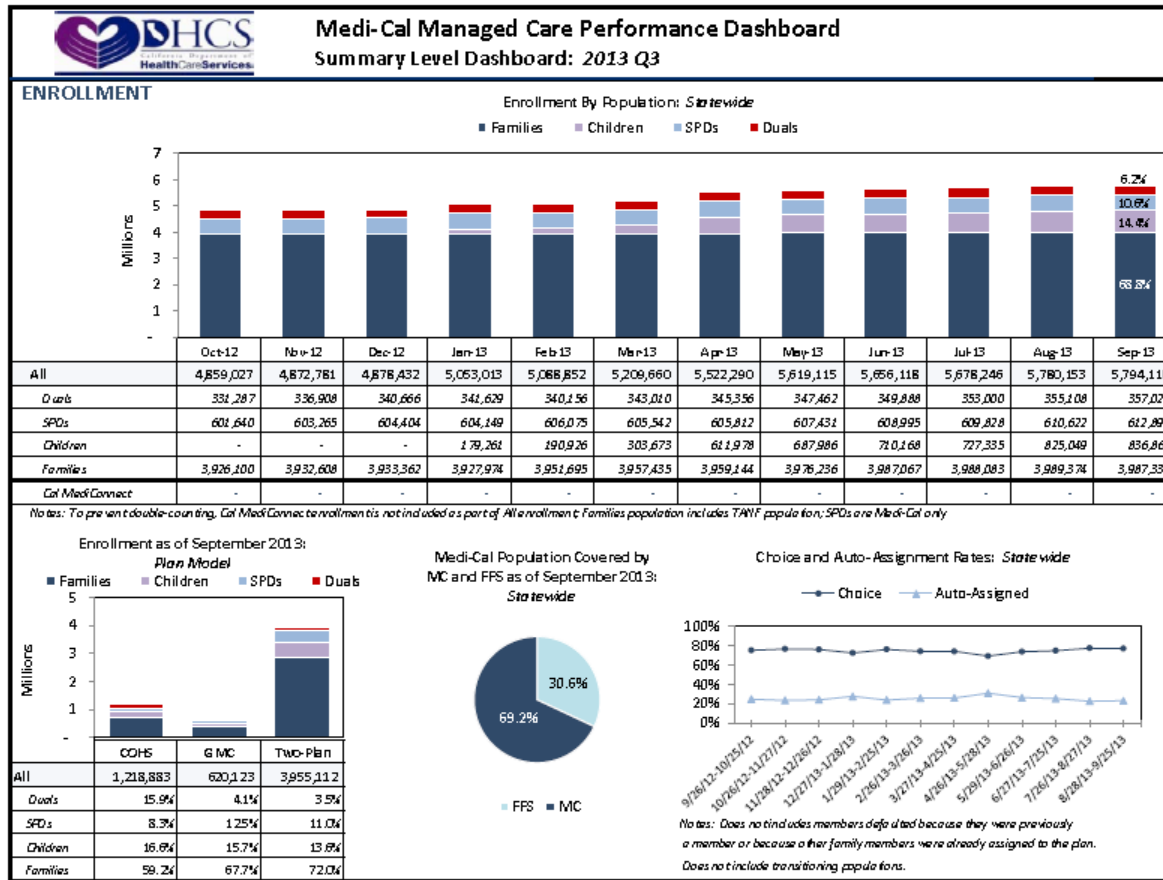
- **MLTSS**

- In-Home Supports and Services (IHSS) – Plans were required to execute Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with their County Department of Social Services
- Multi-purpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) – Plans were required to contract with the MSSP sites within their counties
- Community Based Adult Services (CBAS) – DHCS validated that each plan had an agreement with the CBAS providers within the plan's county
- Nursing Facilities (NF) – DHCS reviewed the nursing facilities' networks to ensure capacity to place patients within 72 hours of need

The Future of Monitoring in Medi-Cal Managed Care



Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard



- Initially released in January 2014
- 2nd iteration to be released on May 6, 2014
- New iterations to be released quarterly
- Link to DHCS website: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Documents/MMCD/MMCD_Dashboard_2013.pdf

Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard

- Medi-Cal Managed Care Performance Dashboard
 - Supports a key goal of DHCS to drive better quality within our Medi-Cal managed care managed care plans
 - Pulls together current information and new trends
 - Will continually evolve based on changes in the Medi-Cal managed care program and in response to requests from stakeholders

Medi-Cal Managed Care Monitoring Webpage

CA.GOV CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF Health Care Services

Contact Us Career Opportunities Help

Search

HOME SERVICES INDIVIDUALS PROVIDERS & PARTNERS FORMS, LAWS & PUBLICATIONS DATA & STATISTICS

Home > Services > **Medi-Cal Managed Care Monitoring**

Medi-Cal Managed Care Monitoring

The Medi-Cal Managed Care Division (MMCD) of the California Department of Health Care Services is responsible for the monitoring and oversight of all Medi-Cal managed care health plans. It is a goal of the Department to increase transparency pertaining to managed care data. Performance monitoring aids MMCD in creating appropriate policies for improving the health outcomes of beneficiaries and to ensure access to high quality health care for all health plan members. This page contains resources and links to tools MMCD utilizes to monitor and measure overall health plan performance.

Dashboard

- Senior and Persons with Disabilities

Audits and Surveys

- Dept. Managed Healthcare Medical Surveys (Not DHCS)

Expansion and Transition Reports

- Healthy Families Program (HFP) Monitoring Reports
- Reports to the Legislature
- Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (PDF)

Quality Improvement & Performance Measurement Reports

- Health Plan Performance Review
- Medi-Cal Adult Quality Care Improvement
- Member Satisfaction Survey (CAHPS) Reports
- Performance Measurement (HEDIS) Reports
- Quality Improvement Project (QIP) Reports
- Quality Strategy Reports

Data

- Data and Statistics
- Medi-Cal Managed Care Enrollment Reports
- Medi-Cal Managed Care Disenrollment Reports
- Claims and Encounter Data

Contact Us

- Please send your questions or comments to: pmmp.monitoring@dhcs.ca.gov

- Created in February 2014
- Includes resources and tools used to monitor and measure overall health plan performance
- Houses various reports that measure performance and quality improvement
- Webpage will be updated to include A&I's medical audits and Corrective Action Plan (CAP) notifications
- Link to DHCS website:

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/ManagedCareMonitoring.aspx>



Ongoing Efforts

- Technical Assistance/Corrective Action Plans (CAP)
 - DHCS evaluates and assesses Corrective Action Plans to bring plans into compliance with State contractual requirements and State and Federal rules and regulations.
 - DHCS provides technical assistance to plans who have been issued minor audit findings in lieu of a Corrective Action Plan (CAP).
- Workgroups
 - DHCS convenes workgroups both internally and externally to discuss issues and share best practices.

Thank you!