

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

February 22, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Shannon Hall  
Ms. Robin Moore  
Rachel Dodge, M.D.  
Winifred Booker, D.D.S  
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk  
Ms. Marie McLendon  
Mr. Ben Steffen  
Mr. Floyd Hartley  
Ms. Nicole McCann  
Mr. Paul Miller  
Ms. Diane McComb  
Ms. Jessica Dickerson  
The Hon. Pat Young  
Ms. Vickie Walters  
Kathryn Fiddler, DNP  
Ms. Maansi Raswant  
Mr. Kenneth Garove  
Mr. William Webb  
Ms. Anna Sierra  
Ms. Linda Dietsch

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D  
The Hon. Matthew Morgan  
Mr. Vincent DeMarco  
Ms. Nora Hoban  
The Hon. Antonio Hayes

## Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee

February 22, 2021

### **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Vickie Walters, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:00 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the January 25, 2021 meeting as written.

### **Departmental Report and COVID-19 Updates**

Ms. Tricia Roddy, Assistant Medicaid Director, provided the Committee with a combined Departmental report and COVID-19 update.

Enrollment continues to grow (see attached chart). While we are receiving the enhanced federal matching assistance percentage, we are required to not disenroll individuals from the program. We have continued to extend redeterminations. Currently, redeterminations have been pushed out until September 2021.

As we shared last month the federal government sent a letter to all of the governors, stating it is the Federal Government's intention to continue the federal public health emergency (PHE) until the end of 2021. The letter also stated that if the Federal Government were to change/discontinue the federal (PHE), it would give states at least a sixty-day notice. We will continue to monitor.

The Relief Act (SB 496) just passed, and there is a amount of monies for grants. One of the key areas that the Department will be working on is getting grants to the 8507 SUD providers. There are approximately \$5 million allocated for us to pass along to those providers through grants. There is also \$15 million that will be given to mobile crisis and stand-alone walk-in centers through grants that the Behavioral Health Administration will be allocating.

The Department continues to monitor all of the guidance that we are receiving from the federal government in terms of our waivers, disaster state plan amendments and making sure we are complying with any new federal guidance that comes out.

### **Legislative Update**

Ms. Alyssa Brown, Director, Office of Innovation, Research and Development, gave the Committee an overview of bills the Department is monitoring this legislative session (see attached chart)

### **HIE Tools for Vaccinations and COVID Response Efforts**

Mr. Craig Behm, Maryland Executive Director, CRISP, gave the Committee an overview of HIE tools for vaccinations and their COVID response efforts (see attached presentation).

Over the past year CRISP has been asked to support the Department and different stakeholders in a number of different ways from pushing information to providers, MCOs, through making results available on our portals and doing some new reporting. With the vaccines coming out, we have now pushed to every MCO a weekly file of vaccinated patients.

Ms. Tricia Roddy informed the Committee that Medicaid has been focused on making sure providers can bill the vaccine administration fee -- both through our fee-for-service program and our MCOs. The Department is paying the Medicare rates for those vaccine administration codes. As we get information on the federal programs like those run through pharmacies, we make sure those selected pharmacies are a part of the Medicaid network. Additionally, we want to make sure that our MCOs are getting the reports from CRISP. This will assist with outreach efforts. Our MCOs are identifying those already eligible for vaccine. Most of those served under the MCOs will be in the next round (We serve only people up to age 65 in our MCOs.).

### **Dental Update**

Ms. Nancy Brown, Health Policy Analyst, Office of Innovation, Research and Development, gave the Committee an update on the 2020 oral health report (see attached presentation).

### **Waiver, State Plan and Regulation Changes**

Ms. Molly Marra, Director, Medicaid Provider Services, gave the Committee a status update on waivers, regulations and state plan amendment changes.

**Waivers** – The Department submitted an Appendix K to extend 6 months past the PHE. This was approved on January 7, 2021. We also submitted and had approved by CMS three DDA waivers. Applications for the Brain Injury Waiver, Community Options and Medical Day Care Services waivers are posted for public comment until February 28, 2021. Links have been provided for these documents in the handout.

**Regulations** – Many regulations are related to rate changes. The Pharmacy Services/DMS-DME regulations shifts the cost of enteral nutritional products from the Medicaid Pharmacy Program to the DME Program.

**State Plan Amendments** (SPAs) – Many are related to the rate increases that went into place on July 1, 2020. The Family Planning Eligibility SPA is for the new presumptive eligibility program which actually went live today. The Department had to submit a SPA for coverage of the administration of COVID-19 vaccines because we are reimbursing for the COVID-19 vaccines differently than how we reimburse for other vaccinations.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Walters adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.