

MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, November 18, 2021
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: GoToWebinar

Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held through GoToWebinar only.

Please register for MMAC Meeting on November 18, 2021 1:00 p.m. EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/8081023846813750800>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Those who would like to make public comment should email Ms. Claire Gregory at, Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov or use the question feature to submit questions to the host.

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AGENDA

- I. Departmental Report
- II. HealthChoice Quality Update
- III. Lead Update
- IV. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, January 24, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Staff Contact: Ms. Claire Gregory
Claire.Gregory@maryland.gov

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 28, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Kenneth Garove
Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D
Ms. Shannon Hall
Winifred Booker, D.D.S
Rachel Dodge, M.D.
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Ms. Jessica Dickerson
Ms. Vickie Walters
Ms. Nicole McCann
Ms. Nora Hoban
Ms. Linda Dietsch
Ms. Diane McComb
The Hon. Pat Young
Ms. Erin Dorrien
Ms. Marie McLendon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kathryn Fiddler, DNP
The Hon. Antonio Hayes
The Hon. J.B. Jennings
Ms. Anna Sierra
Mr. Ben Steffen
Mr. Floyd Hartley
The Hon. Matthew Morgan
Mr. Paul Miller
Mr. William Webb

Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee

October 28, 2021

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Ms. Nicole McCann, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:05 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the September 23, 2021 meeting as written.

Departmental Report and COVID-19 Updates

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

The federal government has extended the federal public health emergency (PHE) which means it will continue until January 16, 2022. We have been reminded by the National Association of Medicaid Directors that the federal government informed states a while back that they would give us a 60 day notice if they were going to end the PHE. We will have to wait and see what happens on November 1, 2021 to see if the PHE is actually extended into the New Year. Even if the PHE is extended into the middle of January, the additional enhanced federal match of 6.2 percent will carry through to the end of that quarter which goes through March 31, 2022. That will impact how we go about redeterminations. It will extend redeterminations for at least another three months and we will not be able to begin those until after the quarter. We will continue to monitor what happens up to November 1, 2021.

The Department did send the Committee an email notice about the 10 percent additional federal match that we are eligible for through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). This match is for home and community-based services. The additional match goes from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. All of those additional monies that states receive have to go back and be reinvested into the program. We have until March 31, 2024 in which to complete that reinvestment. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has to approve our spending plans. We have received a partial approval from CMS that requires additional questions to be answered. The Department is completing those and updating our spending plan and will be ready to submit on November 1, 2021. Our ask right now mirrors the legislative directive to spend 75 percent of the reinvestment dollars on a one-time provider rate increase. Also in the email there was a link to our website to provide stakeholder input on the remaining 25 percent reinvestment dollars. We are taking ideas through November 15, 2021 and are eager to hear the great ideas on how to better improve our home and community-based services provider networks.

We have communicated with CMS that we understand that they need additional time to review these spending plans from states but Maryland has been hearing from its providers that they need these funds soon in order to help them through the pandemic and help them reopen and fully serve our populations. We are moving forward with the other CMS requirements to implement a

rate increase. We are moving very quickly to get those rate increases in place and are aiming for those rate increases to begin November 1, 2021. We will be issuing a public notice. This does mean that we will have to work through CMS's questions and the risk is on the state that we won't be able to draw down the 10 percent enhanced match. However, we've heard loud and clear from providers that we need to start moving with the rate increases.

The Department is working with CMS on our HealthChoice waiver renewal. We are beginning to get questions from CMS but nothing is raising any red flags that they are having any issues with our application or our expansions.

We do have one of our Public Health colleagues presenting today who will be talking about the approval of the Pfizer vaccine for the 5-12 year old population. She will speak on what is expected and how those vaccines will be coming into Maryland.

Open Enrollment

Ms. Michelle Eberle, Executive Director, Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, gave the Committee an overview of the market place 2022 enrollment period which is about to start (see 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 (see attached charts).

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV): Current RSV Activity in Maryland

Mr. Jed Miller, Director, Children and Youth Special Health Care Needs gave the Committee a brief overview of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Palivizumab, a prophylactic immune treatment regimen and current activity in Maryland (see presentation).

COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccination Update

Ms. Dana Moncrief, Project Lead, Pediatric Vaccination Initiatives, gave the Committee an update on the vaccines for 5-11 year olds and an update on the vaccine for 12 year and older adolescents (see presentation).

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Ms. Catherine Mello of the Brain Injury Association of Maryland on expanding eligibility criteria for access to the Brain Injury Waiver Program.

Adjournment

Ms. McCann adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.