

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

DATE: Thursday, November 29, 2018  
TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
201 W. Preston Street, Lobby Conference Room L-3  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

MMAC is now offering a call-in/webex option for MMAC members and their staff who are unable to attend the meeting in person. This information is available upon request.

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**AGENDA**

- I. Departmental Report
- II. Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative’s 2019 legislative proposals – (Vincent Demarco)
- III. Long Term Services & Supports: Maryland – (Eric Adler, MSW)
- IV. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Adjournment

**Date and Location of Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, January 28, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Senate Office Building, Education, Health, & Environmental Affairs Committee Room**  
**11 Bladen Street, Second Floor**  
**Annapolis, Maryland 21401**

**Staff Contact: Edward J. Miller – (410) 767-0247**  
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**Committee members are asked to contact staff if unable to attend!**

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**September 27, 2018**

**MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Ms. Vickie Walters  
Ms. Rachel Dodge  
Mr. Travis Gayles  
Ms. Linda Deitsch  
Ms. Isabella Firth  
Ms. Kerry Lessard  
Ms. Shannon Hall  
Mr. Floyd Hartley  
Winifred Booker, D.D.S  
Mr. Vincent DeMarco  
Adetuju Ogunrinde, M.D

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

The Hon. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam  
Ms. Donna Fortson  
The Hon. Matthew Morgan  
Mr. Nobert Robinson  
The Hon. Pat Young  
The Hon. Joanne C. Benson  
Ms. Lesley Wallace  
Ms. Rachel Doge  
The Hon. Joseline Pena-Melnyk  
Ms. Sue Phelps  
Mr. Eric Adler  
Ms. Carmel Roques  
Ms. Karen Williams  
Mr. David Ward  
Ms. Isabella Firth  
Ms. Joanne Garber  
Ms. Donna Fortson  
Mr. Michael Spurrier

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

Ms. Vickie Walters, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisor Committee (MMAC) at 1:10 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the July 25, 2018 meeting as written, with one correction. Winifred Booker, D.D.S., had been marked absent on the September MMAC roll-call. Ms. India Rustin attended the meeting for Dr. Booker.

### **Departmental Report**

Mr. Dennis Schrader, COO and Medicaid Director, informed the Committee that the Department are close to finalizing the MCO rate setting process and should finish within the next few weeks.

### **Open Enrollment and Maryland Health Connections**

Michele Eberle discussed the upcoming Open Enrollment period that runs from November 1 - Dec. 15. Moreover, Medicaid auto-renewals are at 60%. Through the administration, we were able to institute a reinsurance program that underwrites some of the higher claims costs for issuers. For the first time in twenty years, all health plans in the individual market have lower premiums. However, some health plans will see an increase in deductibles for the coming year.

The Mobile application allows for enrollment from filing an application to selecting an health plan. Studies have shown that thirty percent of Maryland's younger participants only use the mobile application for enrollment. From November 6, 2018, to November 11, 2018, we have the "Beat the Rush" campaign to get as many people from all around the state enrolled earlier. There will be "brick and mortar" facilities to help people get enrolled for both Medicaid and individual insurance. Furthermore, financial help is available for some applicants. Nine out of every ten applicants through MD Health Connection are eligible for financial assistance.

There is some concern that the Trump Administration's proposed rule that would change the definition of public charge to include some immigrants who use Medicaid may lead to a drop in enrollment numbers in the immigrant community.

*Various MCOs also voiced concerns about this matter.*

### **State Opioid Response Case Study**

Ms. Sarah Hoyt, discussed Maryland's opioid response protocol in cases where a provider is about to surrender or has surrendered their Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) license. Upon notification of the surrender of a CDSS license (either by a state partner, by the individual voluntarily surrendering the license, or a federal investigation), the Local Health Officer in the county where the surrender takes place notifies Beacon Health and the MCOs serving the affected area to ensure individuals in active recovery or individuals in pain management have access to the medications they need. The rapid response prevents individuals from turning to alternative methods to get medication or illicit drugs. During the Queen Anne's case study, MDH was able to ascertain that the overdose did not spike during the short closure. Moreover, during

the Baltimore County closure that affected dozens of providers, MDH did not see a spike in overdoses. In regards to a timeframe for the Queen Anne's case study, we were notified of a closure of a dispensing facility at 3 p.m. on Thursday and by Friday morning, the response team had workers at the facility to assist individuals with their medicine. It took until Monday morning for us to set up a direct referral for affected individuals. We would like to follow up with MCOs to figure out what additional data is needed to strengthen our response.

### **Bi-annual Dental Presentation**

Winifred Booker, D.D.S, noting that October is "National Dental Hygiene Month," presented on oral health legislations, (the definition of "dental practice" and covering dentists who want start screening for lead paint poisoning), by Organized Dentistry, (*see attached presentation*).

Winifred Booker, D.D.S, discussed the Children's Oral Health Institute's program "Lesson in a Lunch Box" designed for blind school children for oral health purposes. Blind children have a much higher rate of dental decay, and the "Middle School to Dental School" program. The "Lesson in a Lunch Box" program provides blind students will a lunch box coded with brail educating them on the importance of dental health. Blind children have a higher rate of dental decay. The "Middle School to Dental School" program encourages children to attend dental school, as it provides them with a Dental Coat and pairs the middle school student with a first year dental student from the School of Dentistry at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. The dental student serves as a mentor throughout the school year, (*see attached presentation*).

### **Waiver, State Plan, Regulations:**

Mr. Mark Leeds, Director, Long Term Services and Support Administration, informed the Committee regarding the updates to the State Regulations and Waiver reports. Please note that our long-term policy coordinator, Michelle Finney, has passed away.

### **State Plan Amendments (SPAs)**

None to report

### **Regulations**

Several of the Regulations are in the comment period throughout the month of October or are about to be published. The MCO regulation affecting COMAR 10.01.04 -.05 and 10.09.63 will be final on October 22, 2018. The value-based purchases regulation is being re-reviewed and will likely see one measure taken off, (*see October Regulations Chart*).

### **Waiver**

We are focusing on the Autism waiver at the moment, (*see October Waiver Chart*).

**Lead Poisoning Prevention Activities in Maryland:**

Dr. Cliff Mitchell kicked off “Lead Poisoning Prevention Week” by giving the Committee an overview of the Lead Poisoning Prevention activities and strategies in Maryland, detailing the success of certain programs, the Maryland Department of Environment’s October 24, 2018 report, concerns about lead paint levels in the immigrant community, funding for lead programs, and jurisdictions in which lead poisoning levels needs to improve, (*see attached presentation*).

**Public Comments:**

There were no public comments

**Adjournment:**

Ms. Walters adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.