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**Medicaid Redesign Team II Announces 3rd Public Comment
Forum**

The Medicaid Redesign Team II (“MRT II”) is scheduled to hold the ***third Public Comment Forum in Albany on Friday, February 21st***. This third Public Comment Forum is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. The venue for this forum is the Albany Capital Center, located at [55 Eagle St, Albany, NY 12207](#). The forum will also be streamed live online and can be accessed on the day of the event by clicking [here](#).

Additionally, the MRT II has **announced** the members of its Long Term Care Advisory Group to focus on issues associated with long-term care spending and growth and to identify efficiencies within the program. Members of the Long Term Care Advisory Group include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hany Abdelaal, DO President, VNSNY Choice• Emma DeVito President & CEO of Village Care• Gedalia Klein COO, Northern Services Group | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• T.K. Small Director of Policy at Concepts of Independence• Gregory Turchan President & COO, Premier Home Health Care Services, Inc. |
|---|--|

- **Scott LaRue** President & CEO, ArchCare
- **Bryan O'Malley** Executive Director, CDPAANYS

- **Sandi Vito** Executive Director, 1199 SEIU Training and Employment Funds
- **Pat Wang** President & CEO of Healthfirst

The purpose of the Advisory Group is to generate ideas and proposals on long term care for presentation to the MRT II at upcoming meetings.

Managed Care Policy and Planning Meeting

On Thursday, the Department of Health held the monthly Policy and Planning Meeting with the State's Medicaid Managed Care plans.

Highlights from the meeting include:

- **Mainstream Enrollment**: Statewide enrollment for December was 4,183,469, -0.55% lower than December (4,206,715) and -1.2% lower than November (4,227,550). This continues the trend of disenrollment in the mainstream program that started last spring. Enrollment in NYC decreased .56% and is now 2,403,189, compared to 2,416,770 in December, 2,430,949 in November, and 2,452,037 in October. Upstate, enrollment was 1,780,280, continuing the trend of consecutive declines (November-1,796,601; October-1,803,201; September-1,809,978). The Department of Health continues to monitor for causes of the decline. Compared to mainstream, EP and HARP enrollment continue to increase according to Jonathan Bick.
- **HARP Enrollment**: HARP enrollment increased by about 2,000 members and is now 136,351.
- **MLTC Enrollment Update**: MLTC enrollment through the month of January was 283,933, an increase of 1,492 since December (282,441), and 3,332 since November (280,601). Overall, the MLTC program has grown by 12.93% since last January. DOH has previously attributed the growth to an increasing aging population combined with a mandatory program. The majority of this growth continues to be in the MLTC partial cap program, which is currently at 252,113, compared to 250,743 in December, 248,448 in November, and 246,100 in October. MA continued its monthly enrollment decline and is now down 24.76% since last January (4,269 vs. 4,495 vs. 4,833). PACE experienced a modest decline (5,724 vs. 5,734 vs. 5,756) but as the numbers reflect, this is the third consecutive month of declining enrollment. MAP has grown by the greatest percentage among all MLTC programs over the last year and experienced the highest monthly percentage of growth due to transitioning as 2,230 FIDA members transitioned to the program (20,241 vs. 17,620). However, prior to the influx of new FIDA members, the program had experienced three consecutive months of declining enrollment (17,620 vs. 17,700 vs. 17,778).
- **MLTC SNF Carve-out and Lock-in**: As previously noted, CMS has approved the 1115 Amendment that: limits the MLTC Partial Cap nursing home benefit to three months for enrollees designated as long-term nursing home stay; eliminates the mandate that dually eligible individuals who are designated as long-term nursing home stay must join an MLTC plan if not already enrolled

in a plan; and, implements a lock-in policy consistent with mainstream plans that will allow MLTC Partial Cap enrollees to transfer to another partially-capitated plan without cause during the first 90 days of a 12-month period, and with a good cause during the remainder of the period. In accordance with the approval, the “front door” for mandatory enrollment of new LTNHS dual eligible members to an MLTCP has ended. DOH noted that due to an unexpected systems issue, disenrollments will not begin Upstate (everywhere other than the five NYC counties) on March 1, 2020, as originally scheduled. DOH does not yet know if the system issue is significant enough to jeopardize the start date of disenrollments for Downstate, which was scheduled to take effect April 1, 2020.

I/DD Managed Care Plan Qualifications Document Posted for Comment

The Department of Health (“DOH”) has posted notice that a revised draft of New York State Medicaid Managed Care Organization I/DD System Transformation Requirements and Standards to Serve Individuals with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities in Specialized I/DD Plans – Provider Led (SIPs-PL) (hereafter referred to as the Qualification Document) is available online for comment. A link to the Qualification Document can be found on the DOH’s website at:

https://health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_health_homes/idd/draft_mco_qual_doc.htm

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (“OPWDD”) will be hosting an online webinar on February 19 at 2 PM that will outline the content of the document and the changes since August 2018. To register for the webinar click [here](#).

Comments can be submitted to: peoplefirstwaiver@opwdd.ny.gov , ***no later than March 27, 2020.***

The DOH and OPWDD’s transition for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to specialized managed care has been in progress over the past two years, and has a primary focus on two distinct areas: (1) improvement in care management processes using a home health model; and (2) creation of a policy framework for the implementation of provider-led managed care. This notice is intended to provide an update to those individuals supported by the program, families, providers and other stake-holders on the progress made in these areas.

The draft document released for public comment has been revised based on the feedback received and this newly revised draft is being released for an additional round of public comment, which will be used to better inform the State on how best to implement a transition to managed care.

VBP - Update

The DOH has posted the **2020 VBP Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications Manual** for Measurement Year (“MY”) 2019, and is available on the [Value Based Payment \(“VBP”\) Resource Library website](#).

The purpose of this document is to make stakeholders aware of the quality measure reporting requirements for Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (“MCOs”) participating in the New York State Medicaid VBP program. The contents of this document include an overview of the specific reporting requirements for Category 1 measures for each VBP arrangement, a description of the changes to the measure sets from MY 2018 to MY 2019, and detailed instructions regarding additional file specifications required for the VBP program.

The DOH has Noted – **Please read in full the updated VBP Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications Manual as reporting requirements have changed significantly from years prior.**

Question regarding the 2020 VBP Reporting Requirements Technical Specifications Manual for MY 2019 should be directed to: nysqarr@health.ny.gov.

Regulatory Update

Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services

Credentialing of Addiction Professionals

The Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (“OASAS”) has issued a notice of **proposed rulemaking** that outlines the regulatory requirements for persons seeking credentialing as an addiction treatment professional. The proposed amendment is intended to streamline credentialing regulations to a more accessible page length by requiring OASAS to post lists of required coursework on the agency website and consolidates repetitive provisions; clarifies the role of the Credentials Board; adds an option to hold a credential in inactive status for a period of years; clarifies the process of reviewing complaints and subsequent investigations; addresses issues regarding status of credentials during investigation, hearing and penalty processes; updates descriptions of misconduct and ethical violations; and discontinues the gambling counselor credential in the context of staffing changes due to the increase in State Education Department licensed professionals completing the gambling treatment training approved by the Office and the NYS Council on Problem Gambling.

This proposed regulation is open to public comment for 60 days from February 12, 2020.

Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

Creates Extended Treatment Units

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (“OPWDD”) has issued a notice of **emergency/proposed rulemaking** that authorizes the inclusion of extended treatment units (“ETUs”) within intermediate care facilities for individuals

with developmental disabilities. The lengths of stay in the ETUs will be in 30 day increments, up to a maximum of six months, unless extended authorization is received by the Commissioner of OPWDD.

The emergency portion of this rule expires on April 21, 2020, and the proposed rule is open to the public comment for 60 days from February 12, 2020.

Workers' Compensation Board

Updating the Prescription Drug Formulary

The Worker's Compensation Board has issued a notice of [adopted rulemaking](#) to update the [prescription drug formulary](#) newly established under regulations posted in the [June 5, 2019](#) issue of the State Register which includes high-quality and cost-effective pre-authorized medication. This rule makes changes to the most recently established prescription drug formulary, noting the changes as a "second edition" which identifies the list of drugs into three categories.

This rule is effective as of February 12, 2020.

Legislative Update

The Legislature is scheduled to be on a break this week, February 17 - 21, and will resume session on Monday February 24th.

Calendar

Tuesday, February
21, 2020

Medicaid Redesign Team II – Third Public Comment Forum – Albany Capital Center, 55 Eagle St, Albany, NY

9 a.m. – Registration, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Tuesday, February
25, 2020

The Public Health and Health Planning Council's – Public Health Committee Meeting

1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March
18, 2020

The Public Health and Health Planning Council's – Establishment and Project Review Committee (EPRC)

10:30 a.m. – Albany, NY

Thursday, March 19,
2020

The Public Health and Health Planning Council Meeting – Joint Meeting of the Public Health Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee to Lead the Prevention Agenda

10:30 a.m.

QUICK LINKS

**[NYS Department of Health](#) --- [NYS DOH –Meetings, Hearings & Special Events](#) --
- [Medicaid Redesign Team](#) --- [Senate Health Committee Website](#) --- [Assembly Health Committee Updates](#) --- [NYS Division of Budget](#)**

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