



N O R T H A M E R I C A N
QUITLINE
C O N S O R T I U M

2012 Seminar Series

Medicaid

**Learning More About Infrastructure, Lingo and Coverage
and Why it Matters**

Summary

Medicaid: An Advanced Primer

Laura Snyder

Policy Analyst

Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured

In this presentation on Medicaid and how the federal and state systems work together, participants were introduced to a number of important slides that highlight Medicaid's role in the healthcare system, expenditures and spending, populations served, and numbers of Medicaid enrollees receiving care through managed care arrangements broken out by state.

Following the overview, aspects of the federal – state partnership were highlighted. Ms. Snyder reviewed state policy actions implemented in FY2011 and adopted for FY2012, gave examples of mandatory versus optional benefits (of which cessation is one) and reviewed the process by which states make changes to their state Medicaid plans. The presentation concluded with a review of healthcare reform's impact on Medicaid.

Securing Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for Quitline Services: Maryland's Story

Sara Wolfe, MS

Maryland Tobacco Quitline Coordinator

Center for Health Promotion and Education

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Ms. Wolfe began her presentation by reviewing the timeline of events in Maryland's quitline history that have supported their successful efforts to secure FFP for quitline services. Critical to their success were their existing relationships within Medicaid and support from their Health Secretary in advancing communication between the two agencies. Sara also noted the importance of having a very good understanding of your own state Medicaid agency – the infrastructure, the roles that individuals play, and state plan details. For example, within Federal parameters (State Plan or Waiver approved by CMS), Maryland can design its own:

- Eligibility standards
- Benefits package
- Provider requirements
- Payment rates

Sara also noted the importance of knowing your state's various Medicaid programs (in Maryland there are 19!) and fully understanding managed care and fee-for-service – what they are and enrollment numbers.

Sara ended her presentation by reviewing the process Maryland went through to develop their Cost Allocation Plan, the language and data that were critical to success and the lessons learned along the way.

Q: Maine is looking for a waiver currently. How often is a state granted a waiver?

A: There are several states that currently have waivers that they operate different parts of their program under. However, many of the changes that Maine is seeking violate the maintenance of eligibility (MOE) provisions enacted under the federal stimulus bill and extended under health reform until 2014. These MOE provisions prevent states from making eligibility reductions or implementing more restrictive enrollment procedures than what the state had in place when health reform passed. No state to date has been granted a waiver of these MOE provisions.

There are a few exceptions to these MOE provisions – for example, states that can certify they have a budget deficit are allowed to cut eligibility for non-pregnant adults with incomes above 133% of poverty. To date, no state has used this exception to cut eligibility, but there have been some states, including Maine, that have either submitted or plan to submit documentation under this exception.

Another exception is for expiring waivers – if a state has expanded eligibility under a waiver and that waiver, which generally runs for three to five years, is set to expire before 2014, CMS has determined that it cannot require that state to renew such provisions if the coverage was optional. This came up in reference to Arizona – they reduced eligibility in some of their optional categories when they renewed their waiver in September 2011.

Resources that May be Helpful

Medicaid Resource Repository: an electronic collection of documents and links on topic areas such as Medicaid 101, promotion of cessation benefits to beneficiaries, and partnering with Medicaid.

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Seminar Agenda

Slides: Maryland

Slides: Kaiser Commission

Seminar Summary

Seminar Recording

Learning More About Medicaid Reimbursement for Tobacco Cessation Quitline Activities. Part One in a Series of Webinars Dedicated to Tobacco Cessation Services for Medicaid Beneficiaries.

Agenda

Presentation Documents

Recording

Webinar Q&A