



Healthy PA Implementation Update

January 15, 2015

CCAP in cooperation with affiliates is working diligently to identify and address concerns with the implementation of Governor Corbett's Healthy PA initiative. Ongoing discussions and exchanges of information occur almost daily with the goal of identifying and assisting in resolving concerns.

Healthy PA enrollment began in December 2014 with an effective date of January 1, 2015. Some Medical Assistance recipients received letters from the Department of Human Services regarding transition to a low risk Private Care Option (PCO) if their claims history indicated they did not have vulnerable health concerns. The approach in identifying individuals transferred to the PCO plan has met with difficulties.

In December 2014 Single County Authorities (SCA) began to see many recipients were transferred to the PCO option since the claims review missed a critical code resulting in individuals not continuing their current medically necessary services. In particular, individuals receiving supplemental drug and alcohol services, which are not available under the PCO option, found they were no longer eligible to receive the services. Consequently, SCAs were asked in late December to identify individuals who were receiving supplemental services in order to appropriately re-enroll the individuals in HealthChoices or Healthy Plus.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has also realized additional gaps not limited to General Assistance recipients in their approach of determining PCO assignment through the claims review process. The claims history review drawing two years of data was done in October 2014. Services after that date for current recipients or recently enrolled recipients data was not included resulting in a transfer to the PCO plan. This impacted individuals receiving mental health services unless they completed the health screen during enrollment.

Consequently, the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) reached out to the Behavioral Health Managed Care Organizations (BHMCO) this week to identify individuals who were transferred to a PCO that are vulnerable and should be assigned to Healthy Plus. The intent of the Department of Human Services is to have resolution with individuals appropriately assigned to a health plan by March.

In our discussion with OMHSAS on January 14, a concern was raised that individuals who are dual eligible (Medicare and Medicaid) have also been assigned

to the PCO plan. OMHSAS indicated that an additional review of data will be done to identify and re-enroll those recipients to Healthy Plus. In fact, the department has initiated intradepartmental teams to complete this task. In addition, Deputy Secretary Marion indicated he would take the dual eligible recipients concerns back to the intradepartmental team.

DHS has also heard concerns about access to services under PCOs. This week the department has begun to review the PCOs to determine if they are meeting their obligations for standards of access and service availability. MATP is not available to PCO members, and unfortunately, PCOs do not provide transportation, which may create a challenge to individuals who are enrolled with a PCO.

PACA MH/DS will continue with other CCAP affiliates to monitor and address issues as Healthy PA is implemented. PACA MH/DS continues to support community services for our vulnerable citizens and will work with our members and the department to that end. Please contact [Deb Neifert](#) or [Lucy Kitner](#) if you have additional concerns with Health PA implementation.