

**Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Dental Task Force**



September 1, 2017

2:00 – 3:00 PM CT

Conference call line: 1-888-822-7517

Passcode: 803743#





## Alabama Medicaid Agency Dental Task Force Meeting

Friday, September 1, 2017

### Minutes

**Members present:** Danny Rush, Dave White

**Members present via conference call:** Conan Davis, Dwight Williams, Michele Waren, Ric Simpson, Mike Robinson,

**Medicaid members/staff present:** Beth Huckabee, Beverly Churchwell, Robert Moon, Thera Tyner, Melinda Rowe, and Chrystal Logan

**Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions:** The Dental Task Force quarterly meeting was held today at 2:00 PM in the Alabama Medicaid Agency, Conference room 8-D. Beth Huckabee called the meeting to order, took the roll call of members present and introduced Medicaid staff present. She thanked them for their attendance.

**Review and Adoption of Minutes:** There were no corrections or additions to the previous meeting minutes. Mike Robinson and Conan Davis gave the motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> motion respectively for adoption of the minutes. The minutes were approved.

**Medicaid Financial Update:** Karen Wainwright provided the following financial update Beth shared with the members:

Finance Update:

- FY16 Final Provider Payroll Expenditures
  - 0209 Health Support, SDH Dental \$88,417,583
  - 0215 CHIP, SDH Dental \$8,115,220
- FY17 Provider Payroll as of 8/18/17 Check write
  - 0209 Health Support, SDH Dental \$58,245,021
  - 0215 CHIP, SDH Dental \$25,886,266
    - We expect regular dental to be lower, and CHIP dental to be higher with the additional CHIP eligibles.
    - YTD expenditures are within budget with 1 month remaining in the fiscal year.
- FY18
  - level budget

**Regional Care Organizations Update:** Dr. Moon stated shared the RCO implementation will not occur and the Agency is working on a pivot plan based largely on the current Health Homes. He cited reasons being the new Managed Care rule implemented in 2016 with requirements, the new federal environment is different, and unique funding services (hospital tax, for example). Some positives are the new administration may offer flexibility and other opportunities. He encouraged the DTF, along with other groups such as the Medical Care Advisory Committee, to be involved by sharing ideas and thoughts the Agency can consider.

Ric Simpson asked about AAP and other organizations regarding minimum health standards: Is it our understanding that CMS will maintain EPSDT? We could save money here and there by cutting, but urged to send money to preventive. Dr. Moon's response was obviously we would be concerned at the federal level if there were cuts. Alabama is sensitive to this and watching this.

Mike Robinson asked if Medicaid has a report card or measure by which providers will be measured moving forward. Dr. Moon responded that providers picked the metrics to measure the RCOs' performance. They must be attainable and not too high. The Commissioner wants quality performance tied to financial benefits.

Dental Opioid Study Update: Thera Tyner present results of the Dental Opioid survey with mixed results. Some of the survey participating providers changed positively by decreasing the number or strength prescribed. Others stayed the same or increased.

Dr. Simpson asked if there is a system all pharmacies use when a person uses multiple pharmacies. Dr. Moon answered yes and no. Pharmacists can access the PDMP and see what has been dispensed, though it does not pop up automatically. Pharmacists can access Medicaid's system and immediately see dispersions. He went further to state it would require a law for a pharmacist to check the PDMP when a person brings in a prescription for opioids. He also explained the new Board of Medical Examiners rule.

Dave White added 16 states require checking of the PDMP and the surgeon general recommends it. The BME got push back when it was brought up.

**Dental Consultant Update:** Danny Rush brought the following items up for discussion:

- Encouraged the reviewing of the provider manual regularly.
- Silver diamine fluoride – what response have members had from parents regarding the treatment cost, coloring, etc. Ric Simpson said an issue is the dark coloring of the teeth; a good explanation of the treatment is needed for the parents to feel comfortable with it. He said Steve Mitchell and Keri Miller are using it in practice. He asks what do other companies and states do for SDF and how should kids under 3 be treated. He said literature shows that it is very promising, but there is a tremendous benefit in limiting need for some treatment.

**Program Update:** Beth Huckabee updated on the following items:

- As you are aware, the Governor directed Medicaid to pursue a two-track process for evaluating the future of the Dental program. Medicaid has worked the ALDA in providing data for ALDA to offer recommendations in a report submitted on July 31st. Concurrently, Medicaid developed and issued an RFP (Request for Proposals) on July 26<sup>th</sup>, and the deadline for bids was August 31<sup>st</sup>. The next stage of the RFP process is

evaluation and this is expected to through almost the end of September. The Intent to Award date has not been determined yet.

- Reminders:
  - Effective May 1, 2017, supporting documents for PAs can only be received via fax or PDF upload. This helps ensure receipt of documents and decision in a timely manner. The Provider Manual and March 1, 2017 Provider ALERT gives instructions on the process.
  - The 2012 ADA Dental claim form is now only being accepted for claims submitted through Administrative Reviews or similar process that requires a paper claim.

Questions asked about the RFP included what steps are next after the receiving of bids, can the list of bidders be made known, what services, populations, and provisions are included in the contract. Beth said the answers are limited to what is published and urged members to review material published on the Agency website.

**New Items:** No new items.

No other new business. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **December 1, 2017 from 2:00-3:00 PM, conference room 8-D.**