

**Alabama Medicaid Agency Dental Task Force Meeting**

**Friday, September 16, 2016**

**Agenda**

**Members:**

<b>Bennie J. Goggins</b>	<b>Otha Solomon</b>	<b>Dave White</b>
<b>Conan Davis</b>	<b>Rick Simpson</b>	<b>Robert L. Meador</b>
<b>Dwight Williams</b>	<b>Stephen C. Mitchell</b>	<b>Rodney Michael Robinson</b>
<b>Iverson B. Hopson,III</b>	<b>Teri Chafin</b>	<b>Sherry Goode</b>
<b>James Murfree</b>	<b>Jo Ann Harris</b>	<b>Danny Rush</b>
<b>Michelle Bajjalieh</b>	<b>Kim Williams</b>	<b>Zack Studstill</b>
<b>Michele Waren</b>		

**Attendees:**


**Agenda:**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Review and Adoption of Minutes**

**Financial and Legislative Update**

**Regional Care Organization Update**

**1<sup>st</sup> Look Program Update**

**Dental Consultant Update**

**Dental Program Update**

Questions:

New Items:

**Next Meeting Date:** December 2, 2016, Time: TBD

## Minutes

**Members present:** Danny Rush and Zack Studstill

**Members present via conference call:** Conan Davis, Ric Simpson, Mike Robinson, Michelle Bajjalieh, Steven Mitchell, and Dave White

**Medicaid members/staff present:** Theresa Richburg, Beverly Churchwell, James Whitehead, Drew Nelson, Barry Cambron, Jerri Jackson, Mary Hasselwander, Beth Huckabee

**HPE staff present via conference call:** Linda Hanks, Cyndi Crockett

**Call to Order:** The Dental Task Force quarterly meeting was held today at 12:05 PM in the Alabama Medicaid Conference Room 3-I. Beth Huckabee called the meeting to order, welcomed and thanked all attendees for being there.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Beth Huckabee welcomed members to the meeting, took the roll call of members present by phone and in the room, and introduced people present in the room.

**Review and Adoption of Minutes:** There were no corrections voiced by the members for the minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting. Zack Studstill and Danny Rush moved the minutes be adopted. None opposed.

**Medicaid Financial Update:** Beth Huckabee provided a financial update by paraphrasing the most recent edition of *Medicaid Matters*.

**Regional Care Organizations Update:** Jerri Jackson indicated Medicaid is requesting a new implementation date of July 1, 2017 for the RCOs. Medicaid has not stopped with preparations such as desk reviews, delivery systems testing, reviewing manual, personnel and staff reviews, and rate setting even though the “go-live” date was postponed from October 1, 2016. The Agency will hold a public forum regarding the waiver for RCOs on Wednesday, September 21, 2016, 1:30PM in the Board room. Approval has been given to hire additional staff including RCO managers and Quality Analytics and Finance team members.

Drew Nelson also provided an update on the IPS (Integrated Provider System) and ICN (Integrated Care Network) for Long Term Care managed care. IPS is a part of the 1115 waiver for RCOs where the most transition will be visible in the state. The amount is about \$300 million, but is not set as it is based off waiver money and allocated from DSH payments.

Medicaid did move forward doing outreach the RCOs and providers on what the application will require and encouraging them to work with different RCOs. Over 650 LOIs were received for \$4 billion in projects that were submitted which will be reviewed. Providers are encouraged to complete pre-applications for the IPS network. ICN – LTC support waiver starting October 2018 is currently in the procurement phase. Meetings are on-going with stake holder workgroups for consumers and providers that will target different subject areas, such as design and input from providers. A survey was released to recipients and providers inquiring about their experience with the current system. 1800 surveys have been received back to date.

Zack Studstill asked what the backup plan would be if funding or solvency kept RCOs from continuing once implemented. Jerri Jackson and Drew Nelson state other RCOs could apply to cover recipients in a region if an RCO were to pull out. To date, the RCOs have indicated they are in this for the long term and plan as such. CMS has indicated one RCO can operate in a rural region if the situation arises and where a recipient could opt out of the operational RCO. The law also allows alternative care providers to be activated if only one RCO is operational in a region.

**1st Look Update:** Beth Huckabee indicated the updated evaluation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Look program has been completed by UAB and is being reviewed internally. She suggested further information and discussion should be a topic at the next DTF scheduled meeting in December.

Ric Simpson reports as he attends meetings and hears from other providers, the 1<sup>st</sup> Look program is helping promote oral health awareness in pediatricians and is increasing the number of age 1 children being seen by dentists. There is a new grant with AAP being pursued to promote a statewide initiative called “Brush, Book, Bed” that would target pediatrician practices that bill for 1st Look and “Reach Out and Read” providers to increase the number of patients referred to a dental home. More information is forthcoming.

**Dental Consultant Update:** Danny Rush said the prior authorizations are now current. Due to the “learning curve” with the PA internal workflow, there may be delays of 2-3 weeks. He also mentioned providers are not listing planned outpatient treatment on PAs and he has contacted them to include it on current and future PA requests.

Beth Huckabee indicated an EOB mini message will be drafted and sent as a reminder to providers.

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

- As an update, effective August 19, 2016 (delayed from August 11 due to technical issues), providers are be able to fax or upload Prior Authorization supporting documentation for review via the forms menu in the Medicaid Provider Web Portal. This will help ensure receipt of documents in a timely manner. For dental providers that submit hard copy radiographs, these will still be accepted through mail. All other documents will be received electronically only beginning November 15, 2016.

Information about the process is in the July Provider Insider. This not only affects the providers, but is a new process internally for Medicaid, especially for the dental consultant. As with anything new, there is a learning curve and “bugs” to work out, but we are working with the HPE team to resolve these. HPE provider representatives are conducting provider visits and education for the new process as well.

- Also, an update on the PAs. They are current, so there is no backlog as of the middle of August. With the new internal process for rendering decisions, there may be a slight delay, but not to the extent as earlier in the year.
- HPE and Medicaid are also in preparing the system to accept the 2012 ADA Dental claim form. Currently, only the 2006 claim form is accepted. Software upgrades and testing will be done and a soft date for the new claim form acceptance could be by the end of the year, barring unforeseen issues.
- The Dental Workgroup – as a result of the delay with RCOs and attention on funding for FY 2017 coming to the forefront in the past few months, the discussion of dental managed care has been postponed. It will be addressed soon as the implementation of RCOs starts again.

Dave White expressed his support that the program area is continuing to look for avenues to make the program more efficient. Beth Huckabee indicated program has not implemented the cuts recommended by the ALDA advisory group because of the possibility of across the board cuts.

**New Items:** The Dental program proposes a new meeting time of 2:00 PM for future meetings due to some members are involved in dental hospital cases and to afford flexibility for members. Members present indicated 2:00 is a good time. Beth Huckabee will email members for comments on the new time.

The next scheduled meeting will be postponed until December 9, 2016 due to a state wide event scheduled through ALDA.

Steve Mitchell asked what education has the program area done for providers. Beth Huckabee indicated phone conversations are conducted with her and Danny Rush and providers to include as much information as possible, including referring them to the Provider Manual, ALERTS, Provider Representatives and rep visits as requested. Internally, audits and queries are run to identify issues and we reach out to those providers to resolve them.

Several members expressed difficulty finding dental policy in the on-line Provider Manuals, etc. Beth Huckabee committed to providing instructions and getting any news or ALERTS out through the ALDA news.

No other new business. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **December 9, 2016 from 2:00-3:00 PM, conference room 8-D.**