



Pennsylvania  
**Department of Human Services**  
Office of Medical Assistance Programs

Fee-for-Service (FFS) Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2024

Opening Statements

All attendees were welcomed, and the meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, followed by the attendees' introductions. The members approved the minutes from the August 7, 2024, meeting.

Dental Initiatives

Dr. Shamloo, Chief Dental Officer, introduced himself to the subcommittee. He advised the subcommittee Pennsylvania is part of a 2-year pilot initiative with the American Dental Association to increase awareness of the Medicaid dental program. Pennsylvania is one of 6 states chosen to participate in the pilot. The Pennsylvania team collaborates with several agencies to enhance dental awareness. The goal of the initiative is to create a strategy partnership and shared vision to improve oral health care in Medical Assistance beneficiaries and to increase dental provider participation. Some strategies of the group include utilizing dental care, MCO outreach to recruit dentists, working with dental partners, continuing education, advocate for comprehensive adult packages, and increased payments to MCO dental providers.

Quick Facts:

- 2,390,491 Beneficiaries (July 2024 – Manage Care)
- 90% Manage Care, 10% FFS,
- 7 Manage Care Organizations (MCOs) in HealthChoices
- 4 Dental Benefit Managers (DBMs)
- 9,996 Licensed Dentists in PA as of 09/15/2024

- 148 Dental Health Professional shortage areas
- 4 Dental Schools
- 13 Dental Hygiene Programs
- 103 FQHC Dental Sites

Pennsylvania Team:

- Pennsylvania Department of Humans Services (DHS)
  - Shahram (Sean) Shamloo, D.M.D., Chief Dental Office
- Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH)
  - Jonise McDaniel, D.D.S., Public Health Dental Director
- Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health (PCOH)
  - Helen Hawkey, Executive Director
- Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA)
  - Marisa Swarney, Director of Government Relations

Collaborative Environment:

- Monthly meeting with the American Dental Association (ADA)
- DHS/DOH/PCOH Monthly Meeting
- Supportive team

Goals Align with Pennsylvania Oral Health Plan 2020-2030:

- Increase Medicaid Providers by December 1, 2025, PA will increase the number of enrolled Providers in the Medical Assistance ID system who will have billed 1 claim in the benefit year by 3%.
- Increase Meaningful Providers by December 1, 2025, PA will increase the number of meaningful providers (100 + beneficiaries) by 3%.
- Measure Utilization of Services
  - Follow ADA goal, (track diagnostic, preventive, and restorative services) by age group
  - Sub goal track medical providers apply topical fluoride varnish (CPT 99188, 6 per up to age 21).
- Increase preventive services for all populations and measure utilization by age group.

Baseline and Historical Data:

- Number of enrolled dentists with 1 claim in Q4 of 2023, 2,567.
- Number of meaningful dentist 100+ beneficiaries in Q4 of 2023, 1,646
- Utilization of Services TBD

### Potential Strategies:

- Utilize state dental association contact to share information
- MCO contracts require outreach to participating and non-participating dentists
- MCO contracts require VBP pilots with dental schools
- Partner DHS/DOH/PCOH will present CE in November 2024
- Advocate for restoration of comprehensive adult dental benefits
- \$24 million in state funds appropriated for on-time payments to enrolled dentists and a dental reimbursement rate increase for 31 CDT codes
- Distribute printed materials at provider conference

### Quality Improvement Project to PDA members:

- Include in the email monthly newsletter 8/20/24 3,370 recipients
- Providing information to PDA Members call to action shared on the PCOH website and published advertisement in PDA Journal
- Information brochure sent through text and email, enrollment training webinar created by DHS and provider enrollment page on DHS Website

### Preliminary Findings:

- Number of dentists enrolled in PA Medicaid from 08/15/2024 to 09/23/2024, 0
- Number of PHDHPs enrolled in PA Medicaid from 08/15/2024 to 09/23/2024, 1
- Number of views of the enrollment training video on You Tube form 08/15/2024 to 09/23/2024, 4
- Orthodontist reached out to inquire about becoming enrolled in PA Medicaid

Dr. Shamloo will be happy to join a future subcommittee meeting to discuss the pilot initiative progress.

Dr. Tony DiLuca commented the main concern with dental providers is the low fee schedule. He suggested if we focus on a concentrated group of individuals and align the fee schedule with the MCOs or private insurance it would be beneficial. He also commented, preventive health is critical and to focus on children preventive services, this will result in improved oral health care. Mr. Jeffrey Iseman questioned was there any improvements with disability services and their accessibilities? Dr. Shamloo stated that project has not yet touched on that.

### Provider Enrollment Updates

Ms. Sandi Migliorisi, BFFSP, announced the Provider Enrollment unit is expecting 7,715 revalidations this month. She encouraged providers to use the multi-location revalidation option when submitting their revalidation application. Ms. Migliorisi also

stated that the URL for PROMISe Internet has been updated to [promise.dhs.pa.gov](http://promise.dhs.pa.gov). Lastly, Ms. Migliorisi commented on general provider enrollment reminders, treat the application seriously and do good quality checks. Any questions can be directed to Provider Enrollment.

### Policy Update

Mr. Bradley Roland, BPAP, reported on MA Bulletins as follows:

#### MABs Issued Since August Meeting:

[01-24-11 "Prior Authorization of Hypoglycemics, Incretin Mimetics/Enhancers - Pharmacy Services"](#), Issued 8/7/24 and effective 9/2/24.

[01-24-12 "Prior Authorization of Obesity Treatment Agents - Pharmacy Services"](#), Issued 8/7/24 and effective 9/2/24.

[05-24-01 "Updated Electronic Visit Verification Manual Edits Compliance Percentage Requirements in the Fee-for-Service Delivery and Managed Care Delivery Systems"](#), Issued and effective 8/23/24.

[01-24-13 "MA Program Fee Schedule Updates For Certain Family Planning Procedure Codes"](#), Issued 9/9/24 and effective 7/1/24.

[99-24-07 "Medical Assistance \(MA\) Program Fee Schedule Revisions"](#), Issued and effective 9/9/24.

[99-24-06 "MA Program Fee Schedule Updates for Certain Ophthalmology Procedure Codes"](#), Issued 9/16/24 and effective 9/15/24.

[35-24-01 "School-Based ACCESS Program Provider Handbook"](#), Issued and effective 9/16/24.

[08-24-15 "Federally Qualified Health Center and Rural Health Clinic Payment for SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Administration"](#), Issued 10/16/24 and effective 10/1/24.

[99-24-08 "Pennsylvania's Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment \(EPSDT\) Program Periodicity Schedule"](#), Issued and effective 10/29/24.

[08-24-16 "Updates to The PROMISe™ Provider Handbook 837 Professional/CMS-1500 Claim Form, Appendix E - FQHC/RHC Handbook"](#), Issued and effective 11/1/24

## Upcoming MABs to be Issued:

### **“Implementation of ADA Claim Form – Version 2024” (TBD)**

Description: This Medical Assistance (MA) bulletin advises dental providers enrolled in the MA Program: that the Department of Human Services will begin accepting the 2024 American Dental Association (ADA) Claim Form upon issuance of this MA bulletin and will no longer accept the 2019 ADA Claim Form for dates of service on and after XXXX XX, 20XX; and, of updates to the PROMISe™ Provider Handbook – “837 Dental / ADA – Version 2024 Claim Form” and PROMISe™ Provider Billing Guide – “ADA Claim Form – Version 2024 Completion Aid for Dentists – Prior Authorization.”

### **“Application of TFV to MA Beneficiaries Under 21” (TBD)**

Description: The purpose of this bulletin is to advise Medical Assistance (MA) enrolled physicians, physician assistants (PA), Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP), and the clinical staff they supervise that they can render topical fluoride varnish (TFV) services to MA beneficiaries. This bulletin also provides updated limits for procedure code 99188 on the MA Program Fee Schedule for the provision of TFV. This bulletin is also to advise providers of the updated TFV training requirements.

### **“Pharmacy MABs” (Various)**

Description: The purpose of the 32 pharmacy bulletins is to issue updated handbook pages that include the requirements for prior authorization and the type of information needed to evaluate the medical necessity of prescriptions.

### **“Vaccine Desk Reference Updates” (TBD)**

Description: The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers about recent updates to the MA Program Desk Reference for Vaccines as a result of result MA Program Fee Schedule Revisions.

### **“Coverage of and Payment for Doula Services in the MA Program” (TBD)**

Description: The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers that the MA Program is providing coverage of and payment for services provided by certified perinatal doulas when provided to MA beneficiaries.

### **“Childhood Nutrition Weight Management Services Update” (TBD)**

Description: The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers about updates to the ICD-10 coding to be utilized when billing for childhood nutrition weight management services.

### **“Limited English Proficiency Updates” (TBD)**

Description: The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers about updates to the top 15 languages spoken by MA beneficiaries in Pennsylvania and to issue an updated tagline document.

### Questions and Answers

Ms. Gina Morris advised the group of the CHW Stakeholder Listening Session Schedule that is posted on our PowerPoint and listed on FFS Subcommittee website.

Ms. Shoemaker commented that we are low on membership however we have a new member Mr. Iseman. Mr. Iseman introduced himself to the group.

Ms. Shoemaker commented that we were working on the 2025 meeting dates. Ms. Mindy Eberhart requested that the date and time be moved so it doesn't conflict with LTSS. Ms. Jolene Calla suggested a Survey Monkey to gauge the groups feedback on dates and times. She also suggested the meeting be cut back to 1 hour. This conversation will be moved offline to better assist the group.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am