

Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC)

September 22, 2023 · 1:00 PM

Woolfolk Building – Conference Room 145

501 North West Street, Jackson, MS 39201

I. Call to Order

- Dr. David Reeves called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

- Dr. David Reeves called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.
- **Voting members in attendance: Dr. David Reeves, Dr. James Rish (attending virtually), Mr. Benny Hubbard, Mr. Kent Nicaud (attending virtually), Dr. Charles O'Mara, Ms. Phaedre Cole, Mr. Lee Bond (attending virtually), Dr. Billy Long**
- **Voting members not in attendance: Dr. Justin Brewer, Dr. Jasmin Chapman, Dr. Daniel Edney.**
- **Legislators in Attendance: Senator Kevin Blackwell (attending virtually)**

III. Approval of meeting minutes from May 19th, 2023

- *Motion: Dr. Rish*
- *Second: Dr. O'mara*
- *Meeting minutes were approved unanimously*

IV. Old Business:

- CCBHC Update

Ms. Phaedra Cole offered an update on the CCBHC project. The Mississippi Department of Mental Health and Medicaid along with support from national consultants are meeting regularly to establish the CCBHC certification process and the PPS1 reimbursement rates. Region 6 and Region 14 are the CMHCs that are working towards the CCBHC certification with the program begin date anticipated for 2024.

- Medicaid Programmatic Update

Drew Synder shared an update on the supplemental payment programs introduced by Governor Reeves that would allocate additional funds to Mississippi hospitals generating close to \$700 million in additional Medicaid funds to support Mississippi hospitals. The first initiative is an amendment to the existing Mississippi Hospital Access Program (MHAP), which will provide direct payments to hospitals serving patients in the managed care delivery system allowing hospitals to be reimbursed near or at the average commercial rate. The second initiative will supplement Medicaid based payment rates for hospitals by reimbursing inpatient and outpatient hospital services in the fee-for-service system up to the Medicare upper payment limit. To minimize the financial impacts to the State's general fund, these programs will be financed by adjustments to the existing assessments that hospitals currently pay. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) must approve both proposals. If approved, both would be effective July 1, 2023.

Mr. Snyder explained the Managed Care procurement is currently with the Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB) under protest with the current managed care plans operating under emergency contracts awaiting PPRB action.

Mr. Snyder also shared several policy updates including CMS's recent approval of removal of the Medicaid copay, coverage of anti-obesity drugs and coverage for up to twelve Tobacco Cessation counseling sessions annually along with a planned increase in community mental health center service rates. Other payment initiatives are currently in development as well.

V. New Business:

Dr. David Reeves discussed the Bright Futures screening for children, specifically screening for HIV and Syphilis. There was a brief discussion about the feasibility of adding Syphilis testing back into the requirements. Tracy Buchanan confirmed that both Syphilis and HIV testing is covered during the same visit when ordered by the provider. Dr. Reeves also requested more information on reimbursement rates for nebulizers due to feedback he was hearing from DME companies. Ms. Buchanan agreed to research both matters and to follow up with Dr. Reeves regarding each issue.

VI. Next Meeting –the next date is scheduled for Friday, December 8, 2023, at 1:00pm.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn- Mr. Benny Hubbard

Second- Dr. O'Mara

Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously