

ACP North Carolina Chapter

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BREAKING: Medicaid Waiver Application Approved



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Medicaid Waiver Application Approved

To: North Carolina IM Physicians & Practices

The NC Department of Health and Human Services announced today that North Carolina's application to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to transition the state's Medicaid program to a managed care plan was approved. Getting CMS to accept North Carolina's proposal was a major hurdle in transforming the Medicaid program for our state. The new plan will be launched in November 2019.

Below is a copy of the notice received from DHHS. It also includes information on a **stakeholder call** that Dr. Mandy Cohen, DHHS Secretary, will hold **on Friday, October 26, at 1pm**. You are welcome to participate in the call to learn about what lies ahead as Medicaid shifts to a managed care plan. Registration is required to participate on the call (https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1215692&tp_key=8ff69f67c1).

Best regards,
Alan

W. Alan Skipper, CAE
Executive Director
NC Chapter-ACP

From: Richard, Dave [mailto:dave.richard@dhhs.nc.gov]
From: Alan Skipper (askipper@ncmedsoc.org)
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 12:47 PM
Subject: NC's 1115 Waiver Approved by CMS; Stakeholder Webcast Scheduled for Friday, Oct. 26

Colleagues:

This morning, North Carolina received federal approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the amended 1115 Demonstration Waiver application that DHHS submitted last November. Receiving waiver approval is a major milestone toward implementing North Carolina's Medicaid Managed Care and moving the state's health care system toward further integration and coordination. We appreciate the extensive input from clinicians, beneficiaries, hospitals, counties, health plans, elected officials, advocates and other stakeholders to develop the waiver.

With today's waiver approval, North Carolina was given the authority to implement the transition to Medicaid Managed Care and integrate physical health, behavioral health and pharmacy benefits. This transition toward whole person care also includes the authority to create Tailored Plans to serve people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) or higher-intensity behavioral health needs, and a specialized behavioral health home model to ensure strong care management for those individuals. To support broader state efforts to combat the opioid crisis and improve access to treatment, DHHS received authority to implement new flexibilities that allow for treatment of substance use disorder in institutions of mental disease (IMDs). The approved waiver also gives North Carolina federal authority to implement through its managed care plans an innovative Healthy Opportunities pilot program, which will identify cost-effective ways for managed care plans to deliver whole person care and ensure that Medicaid dollars are purchasing value. Please note that the approved waiver focuses only on the aspects of North Carolina's Medicaid managed care transformation that require CMS approval.

Please join Secretary Mandy Cohen, M.D., as she hosts a webcast on the 1115 waiver and what approval means to North Carolina's transition to Medicaid Managed Care:

1115 Waiver Stakeholder Webcast
Friday, October 26
1-2 p.m.

Registration is required to view and listen to the webcast:

https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1215692&tp_key=8ff69f67c1

Note that the webcast can be seen and heard only through a computer or smart phone. Make sure your computer speakers or smart phone audio is on and the volume turned up when you join the webcast.

As we move closer to the November 2019 launch of Medicaid Managed Care, we will continue our commitment to transparency and collaboration with stakeholders across the state. Additional waiver materials, including a fact sheet, original and amended waiver applications, CMS approval letter and other transformation

information may be found on the NC Medicaid transformation website at www.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-transformation.

Dave

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