

## **Medicaid Medical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (MMAC)**

May 20th, 2025

Members in attendance: Tim Blasl, Donene Feist, Courtney Koebele, Emma Quinn, Dr. Joy Froelich, Kim Hacker, Kara Hanson, Denise Harvey, Amy Hornbacher, Sen. Judy Lee, Sen. Tim Mathern, Chelsey Matter, Janelle Moos, Heather Skadsem, Nikki Wegner

### Follow up

#### **Introduction of new members**

- Kara Hanson
- Dr. Froelich
- Denise Harvey
- Chelsey Matter
- Heather Skadsem

#### **Call for chair nominations**

- Shannon Bacon was nominated by Senator Tim Mathern
  - Senator Judy Lee seconds nomination
- Call for discussion by Krista Fremming
- Senator Judy Lee moves for unanimous vote for Shannon Bacon
- All present voted for Shannon Bacon in a voice vote with no opposition

#### **Proposed amendment to the MMAC Charter by Krista Fremming**

There is currently a discrepancy between the MMAC and MMEC which affects MMEC members serving on MMAC. Request to strike language and amend that MMEC members serving on MMAC would serve two-year term lengths rather than the three-year MMAC member term lengths to match the MMEC term length.

- Senator Mathern moves to adopt amendment
  - Chelsey Matter seconds motion
- Offer for discussion by Krista Fremming
- All present voted in a voice vote to amend language in charter with no opposition

## State Plan Amendments

### **Provider Enrollment** – *Michelle Adams, Operations Director* – see slides

- ND Medicaid may enroll providers up to 365 after the date of service for urgent or emergent care.
  - The date of requested retroactive approval must be listed on the application along with the appropriate documentation.
- For urgent or non-urgent care applications can be approved for up to 90 days after the date of care.

### **Alternative Benefit Plan for Medicaid Expansion members ages 21-64** – *Krista Fremming, Assistant Director, Medical Services* -see slide

- Due to an oversight, psychologists, advanced practice registered nurses, clinical social workers, physician assistants, and professional counselors were not included as Other Licensed Providers (OLPs). This amendment will correct the oversight.

### **Personal Needs Allowance** - *Joyce Johnson, Eligibility Policy Director* – see slide

- Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 in response to HB 1485.
- Personal needs allowance is the money an individual who resides in a facility and has their care paid for by Medicaid gets to keep each month.
- Increase of \$15/month and reviewed annually for inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

## Medical Services Division Updates

### **Medicaid Legislative Updates** – *Brendan Joyce, Pharmacy and Clinical Services Director* - see slides

- Goals for next biennium: Bend the cost curve: reduce expenses with responsible choices, deliver whole-person care, promote sustainability and value, improve the member and provider experience, broaden partnership with providers
- Key budget drivers: federal Medical assistance percentage (FMAP) change (50.9% going up to 50.99% next year), changing populations (reflected in the appropriated budget), member acuity and utilization (shows that rates are raising for chronic conditions, and other such coverage needs), high-cost drugs, and federal mandates and claw back (Medicare part D premiums).
- Breakdown of who is covered, 2024 statistics, who is served by ND Medicaid
- Budget overview for 2025-2027 biennium
  - \$2.9 billion
- Enrollment and expenditures showing highest expenditures from disabilities, older adults, then expansion adults.

- Key budget drivers including FMAP change, changing populations, member acuity and utilization, high-cost drugs, and federal mandates and claw back
- Goals for next biennium
  - Bend cost curve
  - Deliver whole person care
  - Promote sustainability and value
  - Improve the member and provider experience
- Governor's budget recommendations
  - Private duty nursing and home health targeted rate increase
  - QSP/HCS targeted rate increase
  - Ambulance targeted rate increase
  - Cross disability waiver implementation
  - Value based purchasing
  - Provider inflation
  - Provider inflation – long term care
- Legislative actions relating to ND Medicaid
  - HB 1012, 1067, 1485, 1252, SB 2076, 2271, 2305, 2399 explanation/highlights
- Legislative studies and reports involving Medicaid
  - Shall: Director either HHS or legislative management to study and/or report on a topic during the interim
  - Shall consider: Topics that will be considered by legislative management for study during the interim.

**Procedure Code Look-Up Tool** – *Jennifer Sanders, Business Analyst* – See slides

- This tool assists in determining coverage
- Web-based tool to look up CPT® or HCPCS codes to find rates, claims info., coverage, and more.
- Every code entered will offer a variety of information related to that code
- Questions
  - Will pharmacy medications be covered
  - Yes, just not in this tool
  - Link to [pharmacy medications](#) shared by Brendan Joyce

**Education Topic**

**Medicaid Member Engagement Updates** – *Jen Sheppard, member Liaison*

- Currently holding quarterly MMEC meetings, sending quarterly E-News, and developing the Medicaid Member Handbook,
- Gathering feedback from Medicaid members, providers, community partners, and those who represent members

- Gathering feedback through MMEC meetings, virtual member listening session, member survey, and member focus group
- Members feedback included:
  - wanting added guidance and support,
  - more info on coverage,
  - easier website navigation, and
  - non-English materials

### **Public Comments/Questions**

- None

Next meeting date:

August 19th, 3-5 pm CT, via Microsoft Teams

Posted: 6/02/2025