

ATCA Medicaid Work Group Report for Feb FY10 meeting

Work group: Medicaid and 3rd Party Payer

Chair and contact information: Andrea Thomas

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Main work group members: Kathy Allely, Scotty Barr, Bill Bouwens, , Karlene Borja, Laura Coleman, Karen Doster, Michael Handricks, Jessica Harvill, Elmer Howarth, Lynda Koski, Sanya Krenzelok, Cindy Lincoln, Alan Moma, Marilyn Thomson and Laurie Wiese. In addition, 8 other people receive the information.

Summary of activities since last meeting:

1) We received updated utilization data from the Medicaid Program. Utilization of both the prescription and counseling benefits remain low.

FY09

127,504 = Total adults enrolled in Medicaid

\$68.6 million = Total Medicaid dollars spent on all prescription drugs after rebates

Tobacco Cessation Counseling 94 Counseling Claims Submitted
74 Claims Paid
\$1,229 Total Payments Made

Tobacco Cessation Medications 2,030 Claims Submitted (808 recipients)
\$147,551 Total Payments Made

FY08

124,600 = Total adults enrolled in Medicaid

\$67.8 million = Total Medicaid dollars spent on all prescription drugs after rebates

Tobacco Cessation Counseling 48 Counseling Claims Submitted
26 Claims Paid
\$239.51 Total Payments Made

Tobacco Cessation Medications 5,378 Claims Submitted (2,261 recipients)
\$552,483 Total Payments Made

2) Now that we have updated utilization data we will be organizing a meeting with Renee Gayhart, Michelle Lyons-Brown and core workgroup members to discuss how best to collaborate on pursuing changes to reduce barriers to the tobacco cessation counseling benefit. Options on the agenda for discussion include:

- Opportunities to synergize our efforts with other related DHHS initiatives and identification of other groups/committees we should be in communication with as we move forward with efforts to reduce counseling benefit utilization barriers
- Physician (or provider)-extender status for Tobacco Treatment Specialists (TTS)
 - Having TTSs provide services under supervision of another provider type who is Medicaid billable
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Clinicians
 - Utility of working with the various licensing groups to incorporate tobacco cessation treatment training as part of licensure requirements, perhaps via an endorsement

- Opportunities to achieve reimbursement for tobacco cessation treatment services of behavioral health providers under the substance abuse/behavioral health regulation re-writes currently in progress
- TTS as its own license and Medicaid Provider-type
 - The ANTHC Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training became the first nationally accredited TTS training in Summer 2009, by the Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence (ATTUD). ATTUD would be supportive of and can provide resources for establishment of the TTS as an independently licensed provider-type at the state level.
- 3) Brainstormed on possible ways to get the Medicaid utilization data out to physicians and pharmacists to bring awareness of the underutilized benefit and hopefully inform them of the new benefits.
- 4) The Medicaid changes are still with the Medicaid claims processor and no release date is set. There are also hold ups because of a Medicaid software upgrade. Other contacts within the claims processor are being explored.
- 5) Christine Brubaker left to go to grad school. She was a very valuable member of our team and will be greatly missed.

Summary of activities or discussions anticipated for the next 4 months:

- Look into publishing the Tobacco Medicaid utilization data in an EPI bulletin.
- Research ways of getting the new benefit to physicians and pharmacists state-wide.
- Organize a meeting with Kathy Allely, Renee Gayhart, Michelle Lyons-Brown to discuss how best pursue Medicaid changes to reduce barriers to the tobacco cessation counseling benefit.
- Review the table developed from the Multi-State Collaborative on effective approaches including: insurance coverage, health plan education, state employee insurance coverage, large employee focused outreach and education to leverage purchasing health plans that include tobacco cessation, targeted collaboration, Quit line tie with insurance, and Medicaid changes.