

Medicaid Managed Care Weekly

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Managed Care Enrollment Ramps up in South West and West Central Regions

ODJFS has communicated to managed care plans (MCPs) and key stakeholders in the South West (SW) and West Central (WC) regions that Medicaid managed care enrollment processes will begin on August 1st. AMERIGROUP, CareSource and Molina are the MCPs who will serve consumers in both regions. Voluntary enrollment will take place in August. Consumers who self-select a plan before August 22, 2006 will be enrolled in that plan beginning September 1, 2006. Consumers who do not choose a plan will be automatically assigned to one in September and be enrolled in October. **The SW and WC regions include the following Ohio counties:**

South West:	Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren
West Central:	Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby

Update on North East Region

In April, 2006, ODJFS learned that Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Partnership Plan, Inc. agreed to purchase QualChoice Health Plan. This business acquisition has implications for Medicaid providers and consumers in the NE Region.

Implications for Current Program in Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties

As with all Medicaid managed care plan acquisitions, ODJFS' primary concern is the continuity of care of the affected members. The provider panels of Anthem and QualChoice in Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties will be matched to assure consistency before the acquisition is approved. When members are transferred from QualChoice to Anthem on September 1, 2006, their choice of providers will not change significantly.

Implications for Statewide Expansion

QualChoice's acquisition reduced the number of Medicaid health plans selected for the NE Region from three to two. Following Ohio Medicaid's practice of striving to provide consumers with a choice of at least three MCPs in each region, ODJFS selected WellCare of Ohio, Inc. to enter into the readiness review process as the third health plan in the NE region. WellCare had submitted an application for this region through the CFC procurement process initiated last year and met all minimum qualifications. Medicaid providers and other key stakeholders in the NE region were notified in mid June that WellCare had been selected as the third Medicaid health plan for the region.

Providers Notified of Regional Expansion

ODJFS has notified Medicaid providers in the East Central region that the managed care enrollment process in their region began on July 1, 2006. Consumers who select an MCP before July 20, 2006 may be enrolled as early as August 1, 2006. Providers in the SW and WC regions will be similarly notified about managed care expansion and consumer enrollment beginning in their areas. Notice to these providers will be sent later this month.

Consumer Forums Scheduled for ABD Medicaid Consumers

Beginning in August, ODJFS will host a series of regional public forums with potential ABD Medicaid managed care enrollees. The consumer forums are intended to provide information about the transition to Medicaid managed care and to solicit feedback from consumers about the best ways to help them select the managed care plan that best meets their needs. More specific information about the dates, locations and registration process will be forthcoming later this month.

ABD Managed Care Fact Sheet Updated

ODJFS staff have recently updated a fact sheet providing basic information about the ABD Managed Care expansion. The revised fact sheet is attached to this week's Managed Care Update. This and other Medicaid fact sheets are posted at: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/bcps/FactSheets/>