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Subject: NASHP News: CMS releases final managed care rule for Medicaid and CHIP

Newsletter

April 26, 2016

[Early Highlights of CMS's Final Managed Care Rule for Medicaid and CHIP](#)

On April 25, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) released a long-awaited [final rule](#) that updates the regulations for managed care organizations in the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs (CHIP). These new requirements represent the first major updates to Medicaid and CHIP managed care since 2002. In our [latest blog](#) we highlight what we believe are some of the rules most significant changes. In the coming weeks, NASHP will be developing materials that highlight the provisions that most affect states. [Read the full blog](#) .

[ICYMI: Maine Passes Law to Curb Opioid Abuse and Diversion](#)

Governor Paul LePage signed into law "An Act to Prevent Opiate Abuse by Strengthening the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program" (now [PL 2015, c. 488](#)) on April 19, 2016, making [Maine](#) the second state to pass legislation on the issue this year. In March, [Massachusetts](#) passed the nation's first law limiting first-time opioid prescriptions.

Maine's bill introduces new language into the state laws governing licensure of physicians, nurses, podiatrists, dentists, and veterinarians. Beginning January 1, 2017, providers will not be allowed to prescribe more than a seven-day supply of opioids within a seven-day period for acute pain or a 30-day supply within a 30-day period for chronic pain. [Learn more](#) .

Ongoing State Refor(u)m Discussion on Rx Drug Costs

Last week NASHP announced the formation of a new Rx Cost Work Group. The group, which will include officials from the executive and legislative branches of state government, will examine the many roles states play — as purchaser, policymaker, regulator, and investor — to identify new and emerging strategies that may have promise to reduce costs. Additionally [a new paper](#) released look at the ongoing activities states now use to pursue lower costs. Be part of the conversation surrounding this important issue by joining [our discussion](#) at State Refor(u)m.

NASHP Launches a Value-Based Payment Reform Academy for FQHCs

Congratulations to the six states selected to participate in the NASHP Value-Based Payment Reform Academy: Colorado, Hawaii, Michigan, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Washington, DC. The states will convene for a kick-off meeting in June and receive technical assistance through May 2017 in support of the development and implementation of value-based alternative payment methodologies for federally qualified health centers and/or rural health clinics. Stay tuned; lessons learned from this initiative will be shared in a future NASHP toolkit and resource guide. In the meantime, to learn more about the Academy, click [here](#).

Sponsorship opportunities and exhibit spaces are going fast, secure yours today!

The 29th Annual State Health Policy conference (October 17-19, Pittsburgh, PA) will be here before you know it. With registration opening next month, now is the time to secure your place as a [sponsor](#) and [exhibitor](#). Get your company name and products in front of key health policy officials. With more than 700 attendees from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, the NASHP Annual Conference offers unparalleled access and the ability to increase awareness of your brand among target audiences. Visit our [conference webpage](#) for more information.

Webinar: A Conversation with State Officials on Medicaid Dental Managed Care

An increasing number of states are using managed care approaches to deliver Medicaid dental services. In this webinar, state policymakers from Kentucky, Arizona, and Pennsylvania—three states that administer Medicaid benefits through managed care contracts that include both medical and dental services—will share their insights about strategies to ensure that managed care contractors and their subcontractors maintain an adequate network of dental providers, provide outreach and care coordination to members, and promote quality improvement. The webinar is schedule for **Friday, April 29th** at 1:00 p.m.

[Register Now](#)

Job Opportunities at NASHP

Looking for a new opportunity in health policy? Visit our [jobs page](#) for open positions at NASHP and in the states.

National Academy for State Health Policy

The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent academy of state health policymakers who are dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. A non-profit and non-partisan organization, NASHP provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health policy issues. For more information visit www.nashp.org.

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