

March 2013 Updates & Corrections to MassHealth Advocacy Guide (2012 ed.)

Page 5. Next to last sentence, change Division of Health Care Finance and Policy to Office of Medicaid.

In 2012, the **Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCFP)** was dissolved and its functions split up among existing and new agencies. Administration of the Health Safety Net (HSN) is now under the Office of Medicaid. It has not yet reissued HSN regulations. The contents of the DHCFP website, including HSN information, has for now been moved to the website of a new agency, the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) at www.mass.gov/chia

Page 6. 4th paragraph, change location of Prior Authorization unit from Boston to Quincy.

Page 15. In 6. Covered services paragraph, change Table 18 to Table 17. The same error occurs on pages 99 and 114.

Page 16. In 7. Premiums & copays paragraph, change Table 8 and 19 to Tables 8 and 18.

Page 26. First sentence, change edition of EAEDC Guide from 2008 to 2012 and of TAFDC Guide from 2008 to 2013.

References to other MLRI/MCLE Advocacy Guides throughout do not show the most current edition. For current editions of these publications, see www.masslegalservices.org or www.mcle.org.

Page 37. In 3d paragraph on Immigration Status, change 2012 to 2013 for start of new data match.

Page 39, In last sentence of Q & A 23, add citation for Eligibility Operations Memo 11-03A (Aug 15, 2011, SSA data match to verify citizenship and identity).

Page 40, In Q & A 25, 3d sentence, delete phrase “and U.S. citizenship or eligible immigration status” regarding presumptive eligibility for the HIV+ program.

Page 49, add a new bullet to Q & A 38. “Other individuals who remain eligible regardless of changes in income include: pregnant women throughout pregnancy and 60 days post-partum (130 CMR 505.002(E); infants for one year after birth to a mother on MassHealth (130 CMR 505.002(C); and youth who have aged out of foster care up to age 21 (130 CMR 505.002(K).”

Page 50, add new sentence in last paragraph. “In 2012 MassHealth began another kind of Administrative Review for certain families with children using data matches with the SNAP (food stamp) program. (Eligibility Operations Memo 12-05, Sept. 15, 2012).”

Page 56, in example change \$2000 to “\$2200 in 2013.”

Page 66, in Q & A 51, add to end of 3d sentence, “regardless of changes in family income.”

Page 72, add citations to Q & A 59: 130 CMR 507.003(Standard/CommonHealth Premium Assistance) and 130 CMR 505.005(B)(4)(Family Assistance Premium Assistance). See also, 130 CMR 450.105(A)(5)(Standard), 450.105(E)(3)(CommonHealth), 450.105(H)(1) and (2)(Family Assistance).

Page 83, in last line on page, change 130 CMR 619.007(D) to 519.007(D)

Page 87, at end of paragraph, change 2009 to 2012

Page 91, Q & A 81 add at end of 1st sentence “or recipients of EAEDC.”

Page 92, Q & A 81 under 5th bullet change 2012 to 2013.

Page 93, in last citation on page change §522.02 to §522.002

Page 97, in Q & A 81 change number of Connector board members from 10 to 11.

Page 100, in Q & A 90, update 2012 to 2013 and on next page, 101, at top of page change annual drug cap from \$200 to \$250; for Plan Type 2B, change premium from \$39 to \$40; for Plan Type 3A, change premium from \$77 to \$78; for Plan Type 3B change premium from \$116 to \$118.

Page 119, in Q & A 107, 5th bullet, change QMB asset limits to \$7,080 (2013) for an individual or \$10,620 (2013) for a couple.

Page 124, in Q & A 109 change 2009-2010 to 2013

Page 126, Q & A 111, change Schedule B to Schedule C or E

Page 127, Q & A 113, Add sentence to end, “If a tax return is not available, a letter from the employer describing the amount of income and the period of seasonal employment is acceptable.”

Page 135, Q & A 122, update asset limits for the Medicare Savings Programs to \$7,080 (2013) for an individual or \$10,620 (2013) for a couple

Page 141, Q & A 129, update MMNA: “in SFY 2013, the minimum MMNA is \$1891.25 per month and the maximum MMNA is \$2,898 per month.”

Page 148, Add to federal citations in middle of page, 78 Fed. Reg. 4594, 4685 (Jan. 22, 2013) (federal Medicaid definition of “lawfully present” in proposed 42 C.F.R. §435.4)

Page 150, Q & A 135, 2d paragraph change 2012 to 2013 for use of SAVE.

Page 157, Q & A 142, change contact at Benefit Coordination unit to (617-886-8123, Lois)

Page 158, Q & A 143, Wos v. E.M.A., ___ U.S. ___ (March 20, 2013) (state law cannot dictate what share of settlement is available to reimburse Medicaid without regard to what share of settlement represented payment for medical expenses).

Page 170, Q & A 156, update the 2d paragraph, “CMS has approved the state’s demonstration proposal and it is scheduled to begin enrollment in July 2013.”

The **Duals Demonstration** will provide new kinds of managed care plan called Integrated Care Organizations (ICOs) to provide both Medicare and Medicaid to individuals eligible for both programs who are between the ages of 21 and 64. Unlike the SCO, dually eligible individuals who do not voluntarily enroll will be passively enrolled with the right to opt out at any time. Expected advantages of the ICOs include better coordinated care and enhanced services. However, after a plan of care is developed for newly enrolled members, they will be limited to the ICO’s network of providers. Fully voluntary enrollment is scheduled to begin with coverage effective July 2013, and passive enrollment will be phased in for coverage effective October 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014. Proposed regulations address eligibility for the demonstration at 130 CMR 501.001, and 130 CMR 508.004 (D); and the appeal process for the demonstration at 130 CMR 610.018 (March 4, 2013).

Page 175, Q & A 161, add citations at end of first sentence: 130 CMR § 450.303 (prior authorization); §610.036(E)(aid pending and prior authorization).

Page 176, Q & A 164, add 4th bullet: “MassHealth determines that needed services are more readily available in another state”

Page 179, Q & A 167 delete “benzodiazepines and” from the example of drugs not covered by Part D. Medicare Part D began coverage of benzodiazepines in 2013.

Page 188, Q & A 176, change reference from Division of Health Care Finance and Policy to EOHHS

Page 188, Q & A 177, add to end, “In 2012 MassHealth signed a new contract with the Partnership.”

Page 188, Q & A 178, the first paragraph should end with a colon after “mandatory participation in managed care” and the phrase beginning “children and youth” should be the first bullet

Page 191, add after Neighborhood Health Plan “(now owned by Partners HealthCare)”

Page 211, add to list of those exempt from copays: “independent foster care adolescents 18-21”

Page 229, at end of 4th paragraph change February 2012 to March 2013; in 5th paragraph, last sentence after “US citizens do not have to verify citizenship” add “but as of February 2013, do have to verify” identity,...

Page 230, change website from mass.gov/dhcfp to <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/laws-regs/hhs/regs.html> (for HSN and rate regulations) and www.mass.gov/chia (for HSN reports and other HSN information).

Page 233, Q & A 230, Medical Security Program, the maximum COBRA benefits are unchanged from 2012.

Page 236, Q & A 234, last sentence change Division of Health Care Finance and Policy to the Connector Authority

Page 247, the link for the MassHealth Fax Cover Sheet is

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/masshealth/provider-services/forms/mfcs.pdf>

Page 250, Community Health Centers, delete CHC with dental clinics link and replace with “To locate a CHC with a dental clinic follow the instructions on the League’s website:

<http://www.massleague.org/Programs/ClinicalQualityInitiatives/DentalCare.php>

Page 263-4, Table 6, MassHealth Income Standards, March 1, 2012 to Feb. 28, 2013. Income Standards updated for 2013 are posted on the health section of www.masslegalservices.org

Page 266, Table 8, MassHealth Premium Assistance Upper Payment Limits, July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 were unchanged for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

Pages 267-269, Table 7, Commonwealth Care Plans, Benefits and Copayments, July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 are unchanged for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 except on p. 267 change the maximum drug copayment in a benefit year from \$200 to \$250

Page 271, Table 11, Immigrant Eligibility for Commonwealth Care. In listing of people from countries with Temporary Protected Status delete Burundi and Liberia, add Haiti, South Sudan and Syria.

Page 280, Table 17, Services included in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care. Hospice services are now covered in MassHealth Basic and Essential.

Page 281, Table 18, Monthly Premium Charges in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care, July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. For July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, the only changes are in the Commonwealth Care column: change \$39/\$78 to \$40/\$80; change \$77/\$154 to \$80/\$160; change \$116/\$232 to \$118/\$236.

Changes to come in 2014

Implementation of the federal health reform law, the **Affordable Care Act**, will result in major changes in subsidized health programs in Massachusetts. There will be a new type of MassHealth coverage for adults under age 65 with income up to 133 percent of poverty. Instead of Commonwealth Care, the Connector will offer advance premium tax credits and other state and federal subsidies to make the cost of private insurance more affordable. These new programs will replace MassHealth Essential, MassHealth Basic, Commonwealth Care, the Medical Security Program, and the Insurance Partnership. Income for most people eligible for MassHealth (except for the elderly and disabled) will be calculated using a new methodology. The Virtual Gateway will be replaced with a new web-based application capable of verifying some information in real time. Paper applications and notices will have a different look. For more information on these and other coming changes, check the health policy and health reform websites listed in Part 20 including the state’s health reform website at www.mass.gov/nationalhealthreform and look for publications on “Understanding the Affordable Care Act” in the health section of www.masslegalservices.org