

SMAA LEA Call 5/28/15

Update on Deferral:

Continuing to wait for a reply back from DHCS on the Cost Pool alternative given on the current backcasting methodology agreed to by DHCS and CMS in Oct. 2014. John Mendoza of DHCS was contacted on 5/26 to request follow up on a memo regarding the data and proposal sent on the deferral and if the proposal was submitted to CMS. He stated that there was no decision to share at this time. The Governor's office has requested that the SMAA LEA Workgroup continue to work with DHCS. DHCS is aware of the request. CTA will be meeting with CMS on 5/29 in DC regarding to the deferral issue. A memo was prepared for the occasion.

Reimbursements have been issued to those receiving 25% and should be received sometime in June. 40%-75% will not receive it at the district level until the end of July. Due to the late payment, one district needed to let go of 20 staff. This issue is now being presented to DHCS. If your district is facing similar circumstances due to the July payment, please let us know.

DHCS may be combining payments between quarters so that the amount being subtracted from the payment is less obvious. The hope is for RMTS reimbursement amounts will be higher so that it will balance out what was lost in the deferral. Larger districts will lose the most due to higher claims and smaller districts may have declined reimbursement and percentage rate in moving forward with RMTS. At this time it is still unclear what RMTS payments will be for LEA's.

Barbara Feinstein has sent a reply letter to Bear Valley in regards to the deferral and the response received from CMS. (Letter Attached)

RMTS Implementation (RMTS call May 18th notes attached and highlighted in blue)

- Report from Stakeholders Group – LEA's are waiting for Code corrections before being able to complete the quarter. PCG needs to make changes and deadlines most likely will not be met due to this delay.

During the coding process, DHCS does not yet understand the difference between corrections on code changes and "Appealing" a code change. Appealing a code change would involve the Appeals form provided by DHCS. Appeal procedure is still an issue

DHCS is supporting LEA's having real time access as they have submitted the request to CMS. However, it may not happen until 2nd quarter next year if it is approved.

- **Manual Update** – Still in process. DHCS will post the updated manual onto the DHCS website for review from LEA's before submitting a final version to CMS. Any issues LEA's notice in the Manual please send them to Tony right away.
- **Report from the field** – LEA's must be careful in making suggestions to TSP's when they are responding to a moment. It must not be construed as "coaching." It must be clear to TSP's that verbiage should not be similar to Worker Log, but instead be detailed as to what action is being done, who is involved and why. New participants do not always understand what MAA is and how to respond to moments. There is TSP information/policy for TSP's from CMS on the DHCS website. TSP's may educate themselves on what MAA is. However, scripted answers will raise a flag to auditors. Please make this information clear to LEC's, LGA's and TSPs. DHCS has still to reply in regards to updating the

It is still an option for DHCS to have this quarter be a sample. Depending on the quality of the samples, the decision will be made. There has been a high response rate so far during this quarter. It has been better than the paper time survey in the past. If the quarter goes well then it may be a positive outcome for this quarter to not be used as a sample.

IEP is still an issue that needs to be followed with DHCS. There is confusion in verbiage concerning it. This is an issue being addressed nationally by CMS. This will continue to be addressed with DHCS during the RMTS Monday call and during the LEA Billing Option meetings

LEA Billing Option

Workgroup report – Next Meeting is on June, 3rd. Minutes from past meetings, questions and concerns can be submitted onto the DHCS website directly.

http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/LEA_RMTS.aspx

Announcement – Data Matching Conference Call/Webinar Tuesday, June 2nd at 9:30am.

<https://join.me/105-211-709> Please contact me for more information about participating in this

webinar.

SB 123 is now back on the senate floor and has received zero no votes. Free Care bill SB 276 has also moved forward. To find more information on these you can visit leginfo.ca.gov and enter the bill number for status and updates.

Next SMAA LEA workgroup call June 8th at 1:30pm.