

1. Deferrals

John Mendoza from DHCS has been contacted regarding the discrepancies in payments received by LEAs. His response was not conclusive. Will continue to follow up for more clarification.

Reconciliation of payments and invoices - Many district payments are currently being reviewed to identify discrepancies, as the payment amounts do not match the original spread sheet sent out by DHCS. Some districts have yet to receive payment, and others have only received a fraction.

Several LECs and LGAs are withholding payment due to districts having been paid 100% in the past that now owe more than what was received.

Ed groups are being contacted to meet with DHCS, and possibly CMS.

2. RMTS

A proposal to approve Non Response Codes other than 17, according to DHCS are still being discussed with CMS. PCG is talking to DHCS regarding changes. LEAs cannot complete coding if there is no definitive codes.

Clarifying Questions Report – Coordinators asked to be notified when a clarifying question was sent out. This new feature may result in an extra charge for the notification. Why wasn't it billed into the original software? PCG states that they are working on development. It is not clear when the software update will be ready.

RMTS quality assurance form and report has been updated for the LECs as was the Timeline.

Training examples were developed by San Diego LGA, Janice De Croce and consultant Hansine Fisher. DHCS is currently reviewing the forms.

3. LEA Billing Option

LEA Billing Option workgroup, met on August 5th. To review 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

RMTS billing process is going to stay the same. However, RMTS is going to be used in the reconciliation process, which changes the current equation of

reconciliation. This new process is a way of keeping track of participant's time, and making sure that no one is billing too much.

All staff involved in direct billing will need to be included in the new RMTS billing process. It is a generic process using RMTS codes to calculate time. This will be an integrated process with RMTS and SMAA.

The new process will not start this fiscal year. However, to prepare for the new procedure LEA's should review and verify accuracy of their Direct Service Provider list and Admin list. This will have a big impact on future Direct Service Billing. The goal is to build a solid SMAA program now. LEAs should continue giving input to DHCS, and review the new Manual carefully when it is available.

Statewide vendors were discussed. It was made clear by DHCS that there will not be a new statewide vendor now or in the near future.

LEAs may undergo different types of audits from A&I. This could include an LEA audit, medical review branch audit, or a state audit. Each A&I team can ask for different items from LEAs. If an issue arises contacting the team's supervisor may be helpful.

A full IEP has been requested from LEAs by A&I. This can be an issue for districts, as it is not clear why A&I would need access to the full report.

Electronic signature validity was questioned by A&I, because it was not a "wet" signature. Electronic signature was approved in the past, but was required to have clear policy and procedure. Therefore, this may be an issue when being audited. A &I will be contacted about electronic signatures so it might be discussed at a future RMTS Billing Options meeting.

You may find more information and/or contact A&I using the link below.
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/AuditsInvestigations.aspx>

4. Free Care Update (SB 276)

School nurses are the proponents of the bill. A meeting was held with school nurses and school clinics association and herbage associates. They have been asked by The California Endowment to write a white paper on free care to lay out the issues that need to be resolved. This will be helpful for everyone.

CMS recently hosted a call for LEA's regarding free care through NAME. It was positive overall, and they encouraged LEA's to bill for free care services provided at schools. DHCS did not participate in the call. CMS will continue to share information on free care in the future.

During the call, CMS suggested that LEAs need to submit an amendment regarding free care services into their SPA to include free care services. Also, 3rd party liability will need to be addressed, and IEP requirements removed. Overall, there are limited obstacles and LEAs billing for free care services could soon be implemented.

Current approved State Plan Amendment SPA

Updates, comments and information regarding SPA can be found by using the following link.

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/ApprovedSPA.aspx>

5. Next Meeting

SMAA LEA Workgroup Call Friday, August 21st at 11am

Number: 1-800-914-8405, Code: 1785191#