

**Summary of Meeting with American Hospital Association (AHA) and Centers for
Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicaid Integrity Group
December 9, 2009**

Attendees:

Robb Miller, CMS Director Field Operations Medicaid Integrity Group
Angela Brice-Smith, CMS Branch Director Medicaid Integrity Group
Molly Collins Offner, AHA Director Policy
Debi Tucker, AHA Director State Issues Forum
Lawrence Hughes, AHA Assistant General Counsel
Rochelle Archuleta, AHA Senior Associate Director Policy

Provider/Hospital Outreach Education

Review and Audit MICs Transparency

- Amend current Audit MICs contract to require/permit provider education and outreach.
- Require that future Audit MICs conduct provider education and outreach
- Post Audit MICs' contractual scope of work.
- Make review and audit methodologies public.
- If extrapolation is used in the future, the extrapolation methodology should be made public. And CMS should strive to use consistent extrapolation methodologies and principles across both the Medicare and Medicaid programs.
- Disseminate information Review MICs collect to assist in provider education.

CMS Website

- Post transcripts for all Open Door Forums (1st OPF July, 2009)
- Post all Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ) documents (use FAQ process to share current information)
- Post sample provider notification letter sent from Audit MIC
- Consider developing a schematic timeline that describes the audit process from a provider perspective beginning with the Review MIC combing provider data and identifying providers for audits →to the audit report shared with the provider and the state Medicaid program → to the end of the process.
- Because CMS is using state defined provider appeals processes including provider appeal rights and audit look back periods, this information should be more readily accessible. Web-based links to state sources or state fact sheets could be developed and posted on the MIP website. One suggestion is to follow the example of CMS' 1115 waiver web site and use a map with the information stored on a drop down menu for each state.
- User friendly web-based mailbox for the public to post questions.
- Consider developing a common template to state Medicaid programs to provide process information and relevant contacts for each stage of process.

- Post CMS power point presentations on MIP.

CMS Public Meetings

- Commit to more frequent Open Door Forums beginning in January 2010 and occurring every quarter.
- CMS participate in national level meetings such as the semi-annual meetings (March and September) of the state hospital association organization of reimbursement specialists known as A2HA.
- CMS participate in webinars sponsored by national hospital associations such as American Hospital Association, Federation of American Hospitals, Catholic Hospital Association and the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems.
- CMS staff participate in AHA sponsored conference calls with state hospital associations.

CMS and AHA collaboration

- CMS and AHA participate in monthly conference calls to discuss current issues. Frequency can be determined on a needs basis.
- AHA, for information that needs to reach providers quickly, AHA can circulate via e-mail and post on website.