

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Suzanne Bierman,
JD MPH
Administrator

Notice of Meeting to Solicit Public Comments and Intent to Act Upon Amendments to the State Plan for Medicaid Services

Public Hearing August 31, 2022 Summary

Date and Time of Meeting: August 31, 2022, at 3:02 PM

Name of Organization: State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)

Place of Meeting: DHCFP
1100 E. William Street
First Floor Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Teleconference and/or Microsoft Teams Attendees

(Note: This List May Not Include All Participants, Just Those Who Identified Themselves)

Gabriel Lither, Senior Deputy Attorney General (SDAG)	Kimberly Adams, DHCFP
Dr. Antonina Capurro, Deputy Administrator, DHCFP	Jeanette K. Belz, JK Belz and Associates
Stacie Weeks, Deputy Administrator, DHCFP	Steve Messinger, Nevada Primary Care Association (NPCA)
Casey Angres, DHCFP	Alicia Roman, DHCFP
Joseph Turner, DHCFP	Deborah Kolk, Anthem
Mark Du, DHCFP	Joan Hall, Nevada Rural Hospital Partners (NRHP)
Mary Wherry, Community Health Alliance (CHA)	Linda Anderson
Tyler Shaw, Ferrari Redder Public Affairs (FRPA)	Angelica Velazquez Arias, DHCFP
De	Casey
Kirsten Coulombe, DHCFP	Laurie Curfman, Liberty Dental Plan
Lisa Jolly, United Healthcare (UHC)	Tiffany N. Saunders-Newey, Anthem
Robyn Gonzalez, DHCFP	Tanya Benitez, DHCFP
Lisa Thompson, MD, Anthem	Monica Schiffer, DHCFP
Lisa Collier, Community Health Alliance (CHA)	Marcia Tinberg, DHCFP
Susan De Marco	Sarah Dearborn, DHCFP
Jessica L. Woods, Envistaco	Maribeth C. Capen, Anthem
Kyril Plaskon, DHCFP	Regina C. De Rosa, Anthem
Lisa J. Bogard, Anthem	Susan Angel, DHCFP
Abigail Hatefi, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)	Briza Virgen, DHCFP
Amy Levin, Anthem	Crystal Wren, Aging and Disability Services Division, (ADSD)
Theresa Carsten, DHCFP	

Introduction:

Casey Angres, Manager of Division Compliance, DHCFP, opened the Public Hearing introducing herself, Stacie Weeks, Deputy Administrator of DHCFP and Gabe Lither, SDAG.

Casey Angres – The notice for this public hearing was published on July 28, 2022, and revised on August 4, 2022, August 8, 2022, and August 17, 2022, in accordance with Nevada Statute 422.2369.

1. Public Comments:

There were none.

2. Discussion of Amendments to the State Plan for Medicaid Services and Solicitation of Public Comments

Subject: Section 1115 Oral Health Demonstration Waiver Project

Dr. Antonina Capurro, Deputy Administrator, DHCFP, presented during the 80th 2019 Legislative Session, the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill (AB) 223, which has been codified into law as NRS 422 Section 2747. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to apply for a Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to implement a Medicaid demonstration program to provide dental coverage to adults with diabetes who are enrolled in Nevada Medicaid and who receive services from participating federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). Under the terms of the 1115 Demonstration Waiver, individuals who meet the following criteria will be eligible for participation: Adults 21 to 64 years who are enrolled in Nevada Medicaid, diagnosed with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes, receiving services at a FQHC in Nevada under agreement with the Division to participate as a provider in a waiver demonstration. The hypothesis of this Dental 1115 Demonstration Waiver is by expanding Medicaid dental services, and specifically including basic dental services, such as diagnostic, preventative, and limited restorative dental services including dental cleanings, for Medicaid enrolled adults with diabetes, the oral and systemic health of those individuals will improve, and medical expenses associated with the diabetic condition will decrease. Programs applying for such a waiver must ensure federal spending under the waiver remains within budget neutrality projections approved by CMS. Therefore, the Division is proposing an annual service limitation on the new dental benefit waiver. No more than five dental visits at a participating FQHC will be reimbursable per enrollee per year. Clinically this should be appropriate to provide ongoing treatment for periodontal health and to address any dental decay. The waiver will be conducted over a five-year period and can be renewed or amended, if needed, to adjust service limitations after the implementation and outcomes have been measured for the utilization of this new adult dental benefit for the diabetic population.

Affected provider types (PT) include, but are not limited to: Federally Qualified Health Centers, (PT 17 Specialty 181), and Dentist (PT 22).

The projected enrollment and expenditures for each demonstration year are listed in the agenda.

The anticipated waiver coverage effective date is April 1, 2023. As of July 18, 2022, the state's public comment period opened and will be extended until September 19, 2022.

At the conclusion of Dr. Antonina Capurro's presentation, Casey Angres asked Stacie Weeks and Gabe Lither if they had any questions or comments, they had none.

Public Comments:

Mary Wherry, CHA, asked where the application for the waiver can be found.

Dr. Antonina Capurro replied there is a specific site on the state website for the 1115 Waivers and she advised she would put the link in the chat <https://dhcfp.nv.gov/Pgms/waivers/1115OHDiabetes/>.

Casey Angres – Closed the Public Hearing Section 1115 Oral Health Demonstration Waiver Project.

3. Discussion of Amendments to the State Plan for Medicaid Services and Solicitation of Public Comments

Subject: Attachment 4.19A for Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) Maternity Interim Rate

Joseph Turner, Rate Analysis and Development Unit at DHCFP, presented DHCFP intends to submit a Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) in order to allow for CAHs to request a provider specific interim rate for maternity services. This rate will be calculated by taking 77.8% of the Medical/Surgical/ICU rate. The goal of this change is to get money flowing in a timelier manner to CAHs and lessen the settling amount when cost reports are submitted and audited. Several CAHs expressed concerns through NRHP in providing maternity services being reimbursed at amounts which did not cover their costs for providing these services. These providers are currently forced to be made whole on payment for these services until after the cost report is audited and cost settled upon. The change will also allow money to flow into CAHs in a timelier manner and not cause any cash flow issues for these providers. DHCFP worked with NRHP to develop the methodology for setting rates. DHCFP also received technical assistance from CMS to ensure these changes could be approved in a timely manner. This change allows CAHs to request a provider specific interim rate for maternity services. This SPA also clarifies some language on the respective pages to provide better clarity on the timing for setting interim claims based on audited cost reports. This change will allow CAHs to continue to provide maternity services in the rural areas within Nevada and may possibly increase the number of CAHs who are able and willing to provide maternity services.

These changes are expected to have no effect on the annual aggregate expenditures for State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2023 and 2024.

At the conclusion of Joseph Turner’s presentation, Casey Angres asked Stacie Weeks and Gabe Lither if they had any questions or comments, they had none.

Casey Angres – Closed the Public Hearing Section 1115 Oral Health Demonstration Waiver Project.

Public Comments:

Joan Hall, NRHP, expressed NRHP’s gratitude for listening to their concerns and meeting their needs. There are only three CAHs in rural Nevada that currently provide maternal childcare and maintaining those services in rural Nevada is very important. She advised this timely reimbursement is very important to those hospitals and they hope it may encourage others to provide (OB) services.

Casey Angres – Closed the Public Hearing Attachment 4.19A for Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) Maternity Interim Rate.

4. Discussion of Amendments to the State Plan for Medicaid Services and Solicitation of Public Comments

Subject: 1915(i) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP):

Mark Du, Health Program Specialist II of Long-Term Services and Support (LTSS) Unit, DHCFP, presented proposed changes to the Alternative Benefit Plan.

While this Alternative Benefit Plan was approved at the July 26, 2022 Public Hearing, it is being presented again due to a technical error.

Changes to the Alternative Benefits Plan, Section 7, align with changes made previously in March 2020. The source was updated for Adult Day Health as it was incorrect and was updated from a 1905(a) Authority to a 1915(i). The Universal Needs Assessment and physician evaluation were removed from the amount limit and changed to “none” as that assessment is no longer utilized. The duration limit was updated to 12 months. Home Based Habilitation has been separated to two services: Day Habilitation and Residential Habilitation. The source reflects 1915(i) Authority, and it requires prior authorization, and the outdated Universal Needs Assessment was removed and the duration limit changed to 12 months. Both Day Habilitation and Residential Habilitation are targeted to individuals who have a traumatic or acquired brain injury. The state assures compliance with 42 CFR 440.345 to provide full access to Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services for covered participants by describing the process to access these benefits in MSM Chapter 1800, 1915(i) HCBS State Plan Option Adult Day Health Care and Habilitation.

The following PTs affected by this change include Adult Day Health Care (PT 39) and Day and Residential Habilitation Services (PT 55).

These changes are expected to have no effect on the annual aggregate expenditures for SFY 2022 and 2023.

The effective date of change is July 1, 2022.

At the conclusion of Mark Du’s presentation, Casey Angres asked Stacie Weeks and Gabe Lither if they had any questions or comments, they had none.

Public Comments:

There were none.

Casey Angres – Closed the Public Hearing 1915(i) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP).

5. Adjournment

There were no further comments and Casey Angres closed the public hearing at 3:16 PM.

****An Audio (CD) version of this meeting is available through the DHCFP Compliance office. For more detailed information on any of the handouts, submittals, testimony and or comments please contact Jenifer Graham at documentcontrol@dncfp.nv.gov with any questions.***

From: [Sarah Hunt](#)
To: [Jenifer Graham](#)
Subject: RE: Public Comment for SPA to allow CAH a maternity payment
Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 11:24:02 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Jenifer

My comments are as follows:

The NHA writes in support of the proposed State Plan Amendment to allow Critical Access Hospitals to request and receiving a specific interim rate for Maternity Services. We thank the Division for recognizing the importance Critical Access Hospital play in supporting maternal child health in the rural counties of Nevada.

Thank you.

Sarah Ewing Hunt

Sarah Ewing Hunt | Director of Financial Services | Nevada Hospital Association

5190 Neil Rd. | Ste. 400 | Reno, NV 89502

T: 775.657.5846 | F: 775.827.0190 | C: 626.221.9558

E-mail sarah@nvha.net | Website www.nvha.net



Disclaimer

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

From: Jenifer Graham <jenifer.graham@dncfp.nv.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 11:11 AM
To: Stacie Weeks <sweeks@dncfp.nv.gov>; Sarah Hunt <Sarah@nvha.net>
Cc: Casey Angres <cangres@dncfp.nv.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Comment for SPA to allow CAH a maternity payment

Hello Sarah,

Please send your comment to me and I will ensure that it gets forwarded to the subject matter expert and it will be attached to the minutes of the meeting.

Jenifer Graham
Document Control
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
Jenifer.Graham@dncfp.nv.gov

From: Stacie Weeks <sweeks@dhcp.nv.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 10:59 AM
To: Sarah Hunt <Sarah@nvha.net>
Cc: Casey Angres <cangres@dhcp.nv.gov>; Jenifer Graham <jenifer.graham@dhcp.nv.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Comment for SPA to allow CAH a maternity payment

Absolutely. I am copying Casey and Jenifer here to assist you with your comment. I am sure you can submit something in writing for the record.

Casey/Jenifer, can you please help Sarah with this request on behalf of NHA?

From: Sarah Hunt <Sarah@nvha.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 10:23 AM
To: Stacie Weeks <sweeks@dhcp.nv.gov>
Subject: Public Comment for SPA to allow CAH a maternity payment

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Stacie

Due to the NHA Annual Meeting I am unable to participate in tomorrows public meeting. But would like to provide public comment. Can you direct me to whom I can provide written comments in support of the maternity payment? I am not seeing the information on the public notice.

Thank you.

Sarah Ewing Hunt | Director of Financial Services | Nevada Hospital Association

5190 Neil Rd. | Ste. 400 | Reno, NV 89502

T: 775.657.5846 | F: 775.827.0190 | C: 626.221.9558

E-mail sarah@nvha.net | Website www.nvha.net



Disclaimer

The information contained in this communication from the sender is confidential. It is intended solely for use by the recipient and others authorized to receive it. If you are not the recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking action in relation of the contents of this information is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.