



**Medicaid Medical Care Advisory
Committee Meeting
August 15, 2023
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Attendance

Members Present:

Ann Kay Cefalu Logarbo, MD, FAAP – *Aetna*
Cheryll Bowers-Stephens, MD, MBA – *LSU Health Sciences*
Clark Alsfeld, MD – *Ochsner MD Anderson Cancer Center*
Doris Gray Brown, MEd, MS, APRN, CNS – *Office of Public Health*
Eboness Black – *Volunteers of America*
Floyd Roberts, Jr., MD – *Louisiana Hospital Association*
Glenda Johnson, MD – *United Healthcare Community*
James Hussy, MD – *Office of Behavioral Health*
Joe R. Rosier, Jr., CFA – *The Rapides Foundation*
John Vanchiere, MD – *Physicians-Shreveport*
Larry Humble, PharmD, PhD – *University of Louisiana Monroe*
Michael Bodin, MD – *LOLOL Physicians Group*
Michael Giorlando, DDS – *MCNA*
Shantel Hebert-Magee, MD, MPH – *Louisiana Medicaid Chief Medical Officer*
Shelly Gupta, MD - *Humana*
Steve B. Spedale, MD, FAAP – *Infamedics*
Stewart T. Gordon, MD, FAAP – *Louisiana Healthcare Connections*
Wes Hataway – *Louisiana Nursing Home Association*

Members Absent

Annelies De Wulf, MD, MPH, FAIM – *LSU Health Sciences*
Damien Cuffie, DDS – *DentaQuest*
David M. Carter, DMD – *Smiles Family Dentistry Orthodontics*
Gerrelde Davis, MBA – *Louisiana Primary Care Association*
Jamie Duplechine - *Advocate*
Joseph Biggio, Jr., MD, MS - *Ochsner*
Justin Bennet FNP-BC – *Rural Health Nursing*
Mark Keiser, MBA, MPH – *Access Health Louisiana*
Rep. Robert “Bob” Owen – *Louisiana House of Representative*
Rodney Wise, MD – *AmeriHealth Caritas of Louisiana*
Senator Regina Barrow – *Louisiana State Senate*
Yvonne Domingue, MS, RN – *Department of Children and Family Services*

Call to Order

The MCAC was called to order at 1:18 PM by Dr. Hebert-Magee.

Welcome and Roll Call

Dr. Hebert-Magee welcomed members and stated that all presentations will be posted to the Medicaid Quality [website](#).

Roll call was conducted by Kate Stewart. A quorum was confirmed.

Medicaid Program Updates

Kolynda Parker provided Medicaid program updates. The PowerPoint can be accessed on the Medicaid Quality website.

- Medicaid Leadership Updates
 - Announcement of new CFO Rachel Newman.
 - Effective August 14, 2023, Kimberly Sullivan will be Medicaid's interim Executive Director. The current Executive Director, Tara LeBlanc will retire on September 30, 2023.
 - Any questions prior to September 30, 2023, please contact Tara LeBlanc. For any questions after said date, contact Kimberly Sullivan.
- Medicaid Renewal
 - Redetermination for all members will be spread over a 12 month period.
 - If the member's coverage cannot be extended through the ex parte process, a prepopulated renewal form with the latest information the agency has on file will be mailed to them
 - If Medicaid members do not respond, they can risk losing their coverage even if they are still eligible.
- June Disenrollment's and Updates
 - Medicaid renewals restarted April 2023 with the unwind process, and we continue to encourage members to read and respond to their mail to prevent coverage ending for eligible individuals.
 - Total beneficiaries for whom a renewal was initiated – 151,564
 - Number of beneficiaries who renewed – 91,096
 - Number of beneficiaries who are determined to be ineligible – 12,984
 - Number of beneficiaries closed for failure to respond – 37,697
 - Medicaid continues to monitor monthly
- LDH's and MCO's Current Efforts
 - LDH has engaged with partners for grassroots outreach.
 - LDH partners are listed on the presentation slides.
 - A toolkit is available to the public that can be found at [healthy.la.gov](https://www.healthy.la.gov)

- MCOs are working in collaboration with LDH and mirroring outreach efforts
- Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM)
 - In January 2022, the Department of Health released an RFP for a Single Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM). We are anticipating a contract start date of October 1, 2023.
 - LDH is currently completing the contract with Magellan Medicaid Administration Inc. and is implementing the Single PBM. The intent of a single PBM is to provide a solution that interfaces with each managed care organization (MCO). It is projected to go-live on October 1, 2023.
 - Benefits include processing drug claims equally and uniformly for all MCOs to avoid duplication of effort and reducing administrative overhead at a reduced cost
- Single NEMT Broker
 - NEMT contract negotiations are currently on hold.
 - A protest on the intent to award the contract was received.

Medicaid Medical Director Updates

- **Review and Approval of Minutes from the May 19, 2023 – Dr. Shantel Hebert-Magee**
Dr. John Vanchiere motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Dr. Steve Spedale seconded. The minutes were approved with no opposition.
- Congenital Syphilis
 - The congenital syphilis proposal is with the Undersecretary as a PIP to replace COVID-19 PIP
- Medicaid team will be participating in the first Payers Summit
 - Dr. Vanchiere, a member of the MCAC, will also be attending along with Kolynda Parker and Dr. Hebert-Magee
 - The Summit will also cover sickle cell
- Chronic pain language from last meeting has been adopted and received positive feedback from providers and members.

Subcommittee Updates

- *Adult Medicine*
 - Subcommittee needs a chair and recommendations are welcome (does not have to be a member of the MCAC).
- *Behavioral Health*
 - Looking for additional members to participate.
- *Dental Subcommittee*
 - Looking for recommendations for Chair.
- *Emergency Medicine*

- Introduction of new subcommittee chair, Dr. De Wulf.
- *Neonatal*
 - Discussion regarding the getting certifications in the [AAP NICU Verification Program](#) and working with Medicaid.
- *OBFM*
 - Concerned about congenital syphilis
 - Trying to align state policy with current guidelines
- *Pediatrics*
 - Over the past three to four years, numerous members have retired so the committee is working on bringing in new members.
 - The committee would like to interact in multiple areas including behavioral health.
- *Laboratory Medicine and Test Utilization (LMTU)*
 - Introduction of Dr. Clark Alsfeld who will be merging into the role of chair for the committee
 - Discussion re: CAR-T Cell Therapy
 - Has more benefits than stem cell therapy
 - The costs associated with most of the novel therapies are substantial. The goal is to determine mechanisms to offer these to the patients recognizing that there are budgetary constraints.
 - Data mapping and looking at where providers are located will be necessary.
 - Like any transplant high-tech therapy, everyone who has the condition will not be eligible for medical use.

[Attachment H-Quality Measures](#)

Attachment H will be reviewed independently by members. The team is currently looking at measures to be retired or specifics will be changed for 2024. Any recommendation or additions to the measure set will be taken under advisement. Any questions or concerns can be sent to the LDH Quality Team at QualityCommittee@la.gov.

- Measure 57 we will be providing MCOs with stratified data not only by race and ethnicity but by geographical location (urban and rural), not by parish. This data will be available on the dashboard for MCAC members when ready.

Presentations

Kevin Krejci and Bridget Rabun from Gulf Coast Housing Partnership presented on the topic of Real Change through Real Estate. The presentation can be found on the Medicaid Quality website. Topics discussed included:

- Resident demographics

- Production in partnerships
- Non-urban development examples in Louisiana
- Urban development examples: Baton Rouge, LA
- Health and Housing Goals
- Evaluation questions & associated measures

Open Forum

- Dr. Hebert-Magee gave a summary on PUPP (Public University Partnership Program), to solicit feedback from the Committee members. Subject matter experts (SMEs) are needed to evaluate grant applications.
- Subcommittee chairs could potentially help with vendor requests to make informed decisions. A more formalized approach to handling vendor requests is needed.
- Dr. Spedale made a motion for subcommittees to review vendor requests. It was seconded by Dr. Vanchiere. The motion was passed with no opposition.

Adjourn

Dr. Vanchiere made a motion to adjourn and Dr. Giorlando seconded.