

Anchor Conference Call

AGENDA

January 22, 2021

1:30-3:00 p.m. CST

1. General Anchor Communication

- Thanks for your continued work!

2. DSRIP Implementation

1115 waiver extension:

- HHSC received CMS approval for a 10-year 1115 waiver extension on January 15, 2021. DY11 is therefore under the authority of the waiver extension. The new waiver STCs explicitly included the end date for DSRIP: September 30, 2021. It is not expected that CMS will provide a separate response to the request for the DSRIP extension.
- With respect to DSRIP Transition programs, the Waiver STCs include DPP requirements.
 - The waiver extension also includes a new Public Health Providers Charity Care Pool (PHP CCP). This program will provide reimbursements for costs meeting charity care policy definitions to LHDs, Public Health Districts, CMHCs, LMHAs and LBHAs. In the first year of the program, reimbursements will cover eligible charity care costs and Medicaid shortfall. In subsequent years, the reimbursements will only be authorized for eligible charity care costs.

DY9R2 (October) Reporting Timeline:

- **January 29, 2021** – October reporting DY8 DSRIP payments for all providers and DY9 DSRIP payments processed for providers that were not paid on January 20, 2021. There are separate transactions for each payment for each DY.
- **February 24, 2021** – HHSC and CMS will approve or deny the additional information submitted in response to HHSC comments on October reported milestone/metric achievement.

Category C:

- October DY9 Technical Assistance (TA): HHSC sent e-mails to providers flagged for TA during the October DY9 reporting period, and provider responses were due by 1/15/21. Thank you for your patience as HHSC aims to resolve and clear all TA flags by March in time for April DY10 reporting.
- Category C PY3 Optional Telehealth Measures: NCQA and MIPS recently updated CY2020 measure specifications with telehealth eligibility changes due to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). These telehealth-related measure specifications updates impact 77 DSRIP Category C measures and are being adopted into the Category C measure specifications for **optional** use in reporting PY3. The *Category C PY3 Telehealth Specifications Reporting Options* guidance document and the *Category C Measure Specifications Excel file (v1.9)* have been posted to the DSRIP Bulletin Board and reflect the optional telehealth specifications that may be used for PY3 (CY2020) reporting. As stated in the guidance document:
 - For the Optional Telehealth Measures, DSRIP providers will have the option to report PY3 (CY2020) using original DY7-10 measure specifications OR updated telehealth measure specifications for each selected measure.

- The DY10 Category C reporting templates will require providers to indicate whether provider is reporting the applicable measure using the original DY7-10 measure specifications or the updated telehealth measure specifications.
- In determining the DSRIP Attributed Population and Target Populations, providers may choose to consider telehealth visits as face-to-face ambulatory visits and include them in DSRIP Population-Based Clinical Outcome (PBCO) measure reporting. PBCO measures are included in the Optional Telehealth Measures.
- For measures that are not among the Optional Telehealth Measures, providers may continue to include telehealth services for quality measures that do not explicitly exempt telehealth services.
- Audio-only services may be included in DSRIP reporting to meet telehealth visit requirements unless the measure specifications exclude audio-only visits.

Please note that although HHSC anticipates PY4 (CY2021) reporting to have the same telehealth allowances, this guidance is currently limited to PY3 reporting. HHSC will provide additional guidance regarding PY4 reporting pending CMS approvals of COVID-specific allowances for CY2021 reporting.

HHSC will continue to monitor telehealth-related updates to measure specifications by measure stewards. Providers may e-mail the Transformation mailbox with any feedback on the guidance, additional measure considerations or questions.

Compliance Monitoring Update: MSLC is continuing work on Cat C round 2 reviews with an expected completion of all round 2 reviews in February. MSLC will copy anchors when contacting providers that have not submitted data or have been non-responsive.

3. DSRIP Transition

DY11 Proposed Directed Payment Programs:

HHSC conducted a public hearing on January 20, 2021 to review proposed measures and performance requirements for two directed payment programs for SFY 2022: The Comprehensive Hospital Increased Reimbursement Program (CHIRP) and the Texas Incentives for Physicians and Professional Services (TIPPS). A recording of the hearing is available at [this link](#).

Comprehensive Hospital Increased Reimbursement Program (CHIRP)

- Proposed rules §353.1305 – 353.1307 posted in the [January 1, 2021 issue](#) of the Texas Register. Submit comments on rules to RAD_1115_Waiver_Finance@hhsc.state.tx.us by January 31, 2021, 5:00pm.
- CHIRP Requirements and Measure Specifications are posted on the [DSRIP Transition](#) webpage, under Transition Milestone Updates. Submit feedback through the [CHIRP Survey](#) by February 2, 2021, 5:00pm.

Texas Incentives for Physicians and Professional Services (TIPPS)

- Proposed rules §353.1309, §353.1311 posted in the [December 25, 2021 issue](#) of the Texas Register. Submit comments on rules to RAD_1115_Waiver_Finance@hhsc.state.tx.us by January 25, 2021, 5:00pm.
- TIPPS Requirements and Measure Specifications are posted on the [DSRIP Transition](#) webpage, under Transition Milestone Updates. Submit feedback through the [TIPPS Survey](#) by February 2, 2021, 5:00pm.

Rural Access to Primary and Preventive Services Program (RAPPS)

- HHSC is proposing new §353.1315, concerning Rural Access to Primary and Preventive Services Program, and new §353.1317, concerning Quality Metrics for Rural Access to Primary and Preventive Services Program. The proposed rules are posted to the [HHSC DSRIP Transition webpage](#) and will be published in the January 29, 2021 issue of the Texas Register for public comment. Please note that the rules published in the Texas Register may differ slightly from those posted to the HHSC DSRIP Transition webpage.
- A public hearing is scheduled for February 5, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. (CST) to receive public comments on the proposal. Persons interested in attending may register for the public hearing [here](#).
- Program Requirements and Proposed Measures and specifications are expected to be posted for public comment early next week. A webinar public hearing date and time on the program requirements and measure specifications will be included with the posting.

Directed Payment Program for Behavioral Health Services

- The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is proposing new §353.1320, concerning Directed Payment Program for Behavioral Health Services; and new §353.1322, concerning Quality Metrics for the Directed Payment Program for Behavioral Health Services. The proposed rules are posted to the [HHSC DSRIP Transition webpage](#) and will be published in the January 29, 2021 issue of the *Texas Register* for public comment. Please note that the rules published in the *Texas Register* may differ slightly from those posted to the HHSC DSRIP Transition webpage.
- A public hearing is scheduled for February 5, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. (CST) to receive public comments on the proposal. Persons interested in attending may register for the public hearing [here](#).
- Program Requirements and Proposed Measures and specifications are expected to be posted for public comment early next week. A webinar public hearing date and time on the program requirements and measure specifications will be included with the posting.

Communication Resources

- Questions on CHIRP or TIPPS measures or performance requirements: TXHealthcareTransformation@hhsc.state.tx.us
- Questions on CHIRP or TIPPS rules, eligibility, classes, components, financial requirements (i.e. anything other than measures and performance requirements) which will likely be answered through the rules process: RAD_1115_Waiver_Finance@hhsc.state.tx.us
- Questions on RAPPs or BH DPP: TXHealthcareTransformation@hhsc.state.tx.us
- Questions on DSRIP Transition Plan and Milestones: TXHealthcareTransformation@hhsc.state.tx.us
- Questions on 1115 Waiver Extension: TX_Medicaid_Waivers@hhsc.state.tx.us