

PPACA Subcommittee Update
New Developments- PPACA Implementation
January 10, 2014

I) 3-Month Delay

- A) State Authority – Governor signed Act 116 on December 20. New bill is needed to comply with CMS requirement that Wisconsin implement ACA MAGI requirements effective February 1, 2014. Bill must be passed no later than February 1, 2014. Summary of this development in the form of the Wheeler report was shared with the operational leads and PPACA subcommittee on January 2, 2014.
- Parents and Caretaker Relatives over 100% FPL that apply and are eligible for BadgerCare Plus before February 1, 2014 will be enrolled.
 - Parents and Caretaker Relatives over 100% FPL that apply for BadgerCare Plus on/after February 1, 2014 will be referred to the federal Marketplace.
 - Childless adults, not already enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, can begin applying for BadgerCare Plus Coverage starting on February 3, 2014. Coverage for childless adults below 100% FPL will be effective April 1, 2014. Childless adults over 100% FPL will be referred to the federal Marketplace.
 - Children over 300% FPL will continue to be eligible and can continue to apply for BadgerCare Plus until April 1, 2014.
 - All new people that apply for coverage on/after February 1, 2014 will be enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan. Members that are in the Benchmark and Core Plans will be converted to the Standard Plan by April 1, 2014.
 - Joint Finance Committee approved the technical changes on January 8. Draft assembly/senate versions of the bill:
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2013/related/proposals/ab610>
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2013/related/proposals/sb475>
- B) Federal Authority – CMS has provided Wisconsin approval to extend existing federal waivers until March 31, 2014 with new waiver effective April 1, 2014. CMS will not waive/extend requirements to comply with MAGI until April 1, 2014, which resulted

in the technical bill noted above. Waiver documents can be found at:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/waivers.htm>

- C) Member Communications – Letters 1A, 3A, and 10 were mailed between December 23 and December 27. We are working on next batch of Letter 10 for those new applicants/referrals received from the Marketplace in the Enhanced Weekly Flat File. Letter 8A (BC+ Denial/Termination Refer to Marketplace) is also being developed to send to applicants/members that are either denied or terminated from BC+ and provides instructions for applying at the Marketplace. The first mailing is scheduled for January 11, 2014 and subsequent weekly mailings will occur until January 31. Also, on January 9, 2014 we began calling individuals on the Core Plan Waitlist to renew the outreach that had been started prior to the delay. Call outreach to the transitioning members will begin during the week of January 13, 2014. All letters and the TFI form may be found at:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/em/CustomHelp/bcpleters.htm>

- Letter 1A – (transitioning BC+ members – includes MAGI/tax filing form) - 54,006 mailed on 12/26
- Letter 3A – (CORE plan wait list members) - 72,737 mailed on 12/26; 80,984 mailed on 12/27 Total = 153,721
- Letter 10 – (Individuals who applied through FFM who may be eligible for BadgerCare Plus includes both childless adults and other populations) - 32,804 mailed on 12/23
- BASIC Letter with payment coupon for February coverage 841 mailed on 12/31

II) Federal Marketplace

- A) New Updates – Exemption request templates released by CMS on December 20.

This communication was forward on to operational leads on January 3, 2014.

- Hardship.
- Affordability, State-based Marketplace (SBM).
- Affordability, Federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM).
- Tribal.
- Health Care Sharing Ministry.
- Religious Sects.
- Incarceration.

- B) Notices and Helpdesk – Changes were targeted to be implemented on January 10, 2014, CMS is now indicating that the notice changes will be made on January 18, 2014.
- The notice change will correct the situation where the Bay Lake Consortium phone number is not used on every FFM notice that references Medicaid and CHIP, as well as clarify BadgerCare Plus as the Medicaid/CHIP program in Wisconsin.
- C) Federal Marketplace Determinations
- 1) Account Transfers – After initial attempts by CMS to send Wisconsin production account transfers in late December, we just completed another round of testing with CMS on January 8, 2013 and anticipate receiving the production account transfers in the near future.
 - Reminder that Account Transfers are the official records that represent the applications processed by the FFM. The enhanced weekly flat files only represent a portion of the data contained with the applications and are not sufficient to complete automated enrollment within the eligibility system.
 - 2) Weekly Flat File Applications – DHS will distribute files to the Consortia Leads on January 6 and weekly thereafter. These are comprehensive files from CMS, new records can be identified by the application date.
 - The Consortia have the most current enhanced flat file information as of January 6, 2014.
 - Information contained within the enhanced flat file represent applications for people that may have received a determination or were referred to Wisconsin for follow-up, it does not provide conclusive information that can be used to confirm enrollment in BadgerCare Plus. We have confirmed with CMS that several of the fields that should have been populated are missing due to FFM system issues.
 - Wisconsin is not using the enhanced flat file information to enroll people in BadgerCare Plus. We are generating letters (Letter 10) and providing to the Consortia for the primary purpose of understanding potential workload volumes and responding to questions from people who applied at the federal Marketplace.

- 3) **Determination Issues** – We are trying to confirm that CMS has released new functionality that allows the Marketplace call center to remove an application for an individual that received an FFM determination for BadgerCare Plus. Two counties reported this change this week. We are awaiting confirmation from CMS.
- 4) **Assessment vs. Determination State** – CMS approved Wisconsin’s request to switch to an Assessment State effective January 1, 2014, however the Marketplace system changes and notices will not reflect this until January 10, 2014.
 - **Determination State** – Wisconsin is considered an FFM determination state October 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. All FFM applications received by Wisconsin with a filing date within this period will result in people being enrolled in BadgerCare Plus without any additional verification.
 - **Assessment State** – Starting January 1, 2014 Wisconsin is considered an Assessment State. All FFM applications received by Wisconsin with a filing date on/after January 1, 2014 will be processed as if the person applied directly to Wisconsin and go through existing verification procedures.

III. Miscellaneous Issues

- A) **Member Services Issues** – Member services is showing a noticeable increase in call volumes as of January 2. Large numbers of callers are asking for assistance with completing MAGI information (tax filing information) form. CARES Call Center sent out update to consortia on December 30 with this request:
“Calls regarding Tax Filing information should be answered by the County/Consortia. Please do not refer these questions/calls to Member Services. Review the attached mailing and instruction information regarding Tax Filer information, to assist in answering questions about the notices members have received. “
- B) **New FFM Call Center Issue** – DHS has been receiving reports that the FFM Call Center is erroneously advising childless adults who are calling the Marketplace regarding the status of their BadgerCare+ coverage that Wisconsin should be

implementing a January 1 effective date and they should request a multi party phone conversation with “a supervisor” and the Marketplace representative to get this resolved. This information, of course, is not a correct reflection of the implementation timetable Wisconsin has negotiated with CMS. We are following up with our CMS/FFE state point of contact to get the FFM call center scripted appropriately to reflect the timetable negotiated with CMS.

- C) Updated Transitioning Member List – DHS has refreshed this list and will break it out by Consortia again. We will be able to provide in the next few days.
- D) Premium Assistance – DHS is still looking into any limitations that may exist that would restrict government entities from providing premium assistance. We are going to address this question with CMS on our next technical assistance call on January 15, 2014.