



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Public Provider Meeting Nursing Home Payment Rates

Public Meeting
(Zoom only)
August 28, 2026
10 a.m.–11 a.m.

Presenters

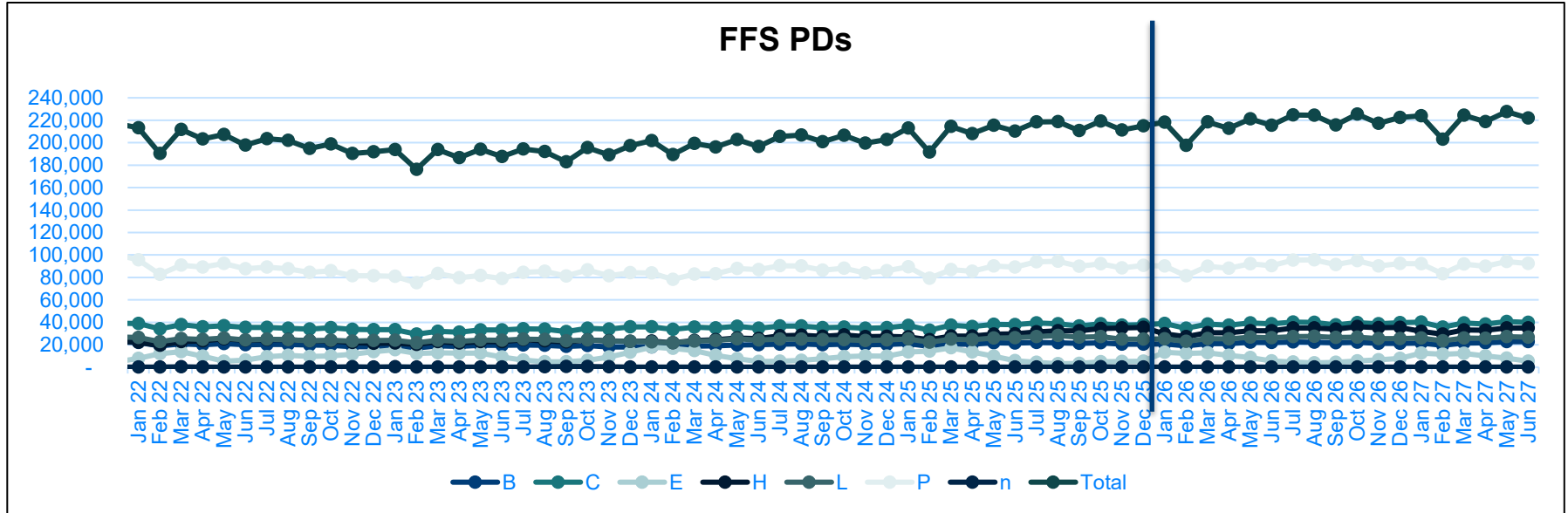
- Grant Cummings, DHS, BRS Director
- Elizabeth Doyle, DHS, BRS Deputy Director
- Nathaniel Staley, DHS, BRS Nursing Home Section Manager
- Jacob Dominy and Madeline McIlhon, BRS Nursing Home Rate Analysts
- Beth Collier Vail, Myers and Stauffer
- Seth Adamson, Optumas

Agenda

- Welcome
- Modeling and SFY27 base rates
- SFY27 methods changes
- General updates
- Next steps
- Q&A

Modeling and SFY27 base rates

FFS Patient Days

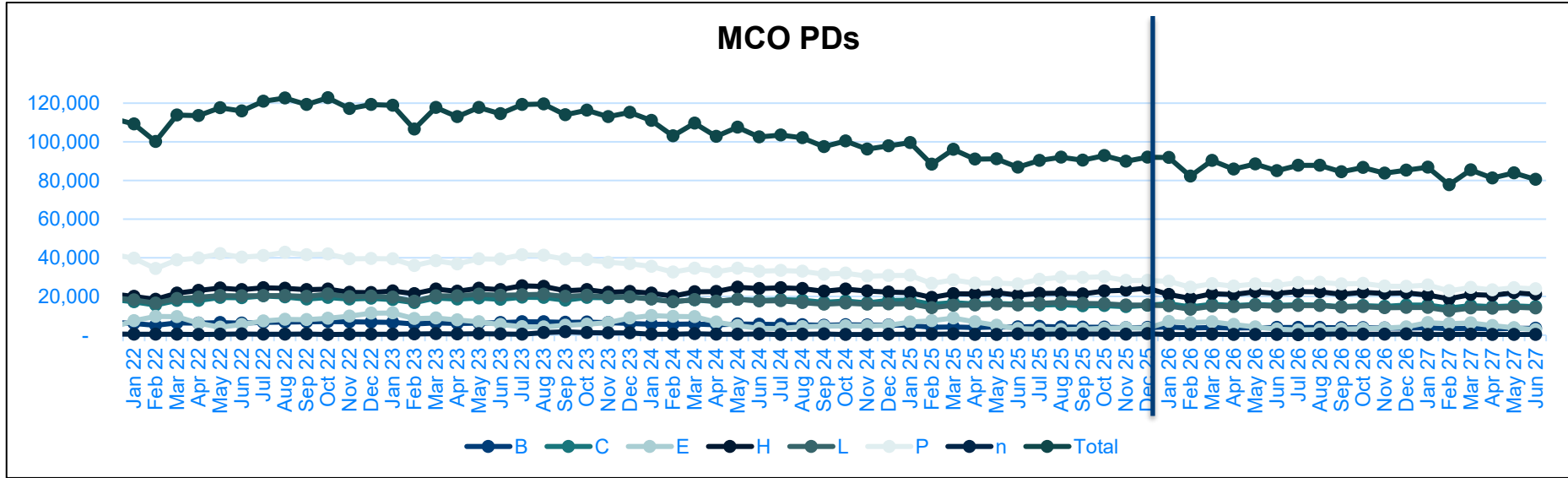


Acuity Group Key

n not defined (delinquent days, assessment not PDPM-able, etc.)
 B Behavior/Cognitive Impairment
 C Clinically Complex

E Extensive Services
 H High Special Care
 L Low Special Care
 P Reduced Physical Function

MCO Patient Days

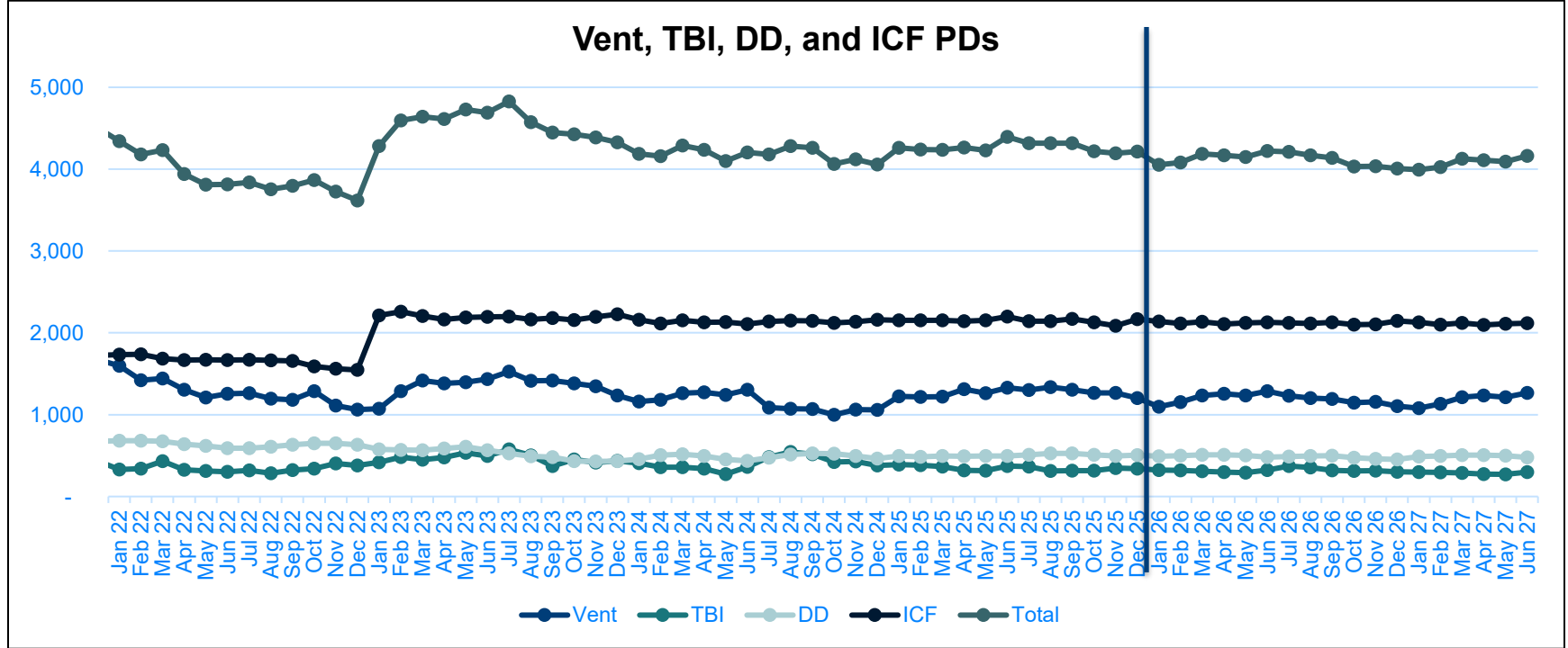


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Vent, TBI, DD and ICF-IID Patient Days



Patient Days

Patient Days			
	SFY 2025 (Actual)	SFY 2026 (Projected)	SFY 2027 (Projected)
FFS NonDD	2,474,176	2,576,316	2,648,634
MCO	1,145,394	1,066,038	1,006,853
DD	5,953	6,068	5,840
ICF	25,801	25,574	25,388
Vent	13,910	14,934	14,174
TBI	4,918	3,860	3,702

Acuity Modelling

Case Mix Index

SFY 2025 Actual

SFY 2026 Projections

SFY 2027 Projections

Nursing

Parity Adjustment

Parity Adjustment

Parity Adjustment

10/1/2023

10/1/2023

10/1/2023

2.74%

2.74%

2.74%

FFS	1.4250	1.3860
MCO	1.5701	1.5271

1.4119	1.3732
1.5684	1.5254

1.4153	1.3765
1.5755	1.5323

SFY 2025 Actual

SFY 2026 Projections

SFY 2027 Projections

NTA

Parity Adjustment

Parity Adjustment

Parity Adjustment

10/1/2023

10/1/2023

10/1/2023

2.47%

2.47%

2.47%

FFS	1.0622	1.0360
MCO	1.2010	1.1713

1.0632	1.0369
1.2029	1.1732

1.0649	1.0386
1.2067	1.1769

Changes to Rate Bases

- Beginning SFY27, we will adjust how we set our Direct Care Nursing and Support Service bases
 - The prior calculation would have utilized the most recent unaudited costs (2025 cost report) inflated to the rate year (7/1/26) and calculated the median + 25%
 - The new calculation utilizes the most recent audited costs (2024 cost report) inflated to the rate year (7/1/26) and calculated the median + 25%

SFY27 Direct Care Base Rates

- Direct Care Nursing payment standard:
 - Median of prior year audited costs inflated to 7/1/26 + 25%
- Calculated from audited cost report submissions.
 - Median: \$127.75
 - +25%: \$159.69 (3.0% increase from SFY26)

Support Services

- Support Services payment standard:
 - Median of prior year audited costs inflated to 7/1/26 + 25%
- Calculated from audited cost report submissions.
 - Median: \$157.06
 - +25%: \$196.33 (1.5% increase from SFY26)

Property

- DHS is utilizing contracted appraisal data for property components
- Per-bed max inflated by 8.6%
 - SFY27: \$130,181

SFY27 other rates

- TBI: \$1,053.65
 - Increase of 2.1% from SFY26
- VENT: \$993.12
 - Increase of 2.1% from SFY26
- SPRS: \$26.02
 - Increase of 2.1% from SFY26

Inflation factors

	January February March 2025	April May June 2025	July August September 2025	October November December 2025
Direct Care Wages	4.6%	4.3%	2.8%	2.1%
Direct Care Fringe Benefits	11.5%	10.6%	4.3%	3.5%
Direct Care Supplies/OTC Drugs	4.6%	3.7%	3.0%	2.6%
Direct Care Purchased Services	5.1%	4.1%	3.3%	2.8%
Support Services	6.4%	5.7%	4.0%	3.4%

Other Methods Changes

Initial Cost Report Review Step

- In order to better collaborate with providers and improve the quality of cost reports, BRS will implement a review step once cost reports are received for cost reports that are flagged for possibly not being submitted correctly.
 - Providers will have the chance to review CR items flagged by DHS for review and correct them before the audit process begins if they indeed need correction. Resubmitting the cost report with any errors corrected will not result in the loss of an 8.50 request.
- For NSGO providers, this policy will take into account the needs for the 7.20 per diem add-on calculation, such as timing, prior to rate setting.
- Not correcting errors initially flagged by DHS will result in the loss of the ability to file for an 8.50 request.

Independent Audits

- BRS will be enforcing complete 2025 Independent Audit submissions. Incomplete 2025 Independent Audits will not be reimbursed by the state.
- DHS will reduce Medicaid reimbursement per section 1.30 of the Methods for late or unsubmitted Independent Audits.

General Updates

- NHs that have been selected for DHS audits have had their desk reviews completed and issued
- Audits for nursing facilities are underway
 - Providers will be informed of the results of their cost report audits and approving or contesting adjustments per Section 8.20 and 8.30 of the Methods
 - Rates will be issued at a later date once the DHS rate program is updated

Next Steps

- Interim rates are on file for SFY27
 - MCOs will be directed to use these rates for DOS 7/1/26 onward
 - Providers can find their rate letters available on ForwardHealth
- DHS is in the process of drafting the Methods changes for SFY27. These will be submitted to CMS by 9/30/26 and posted to ForwardHealth soon after.

MyWisconsin ID

- The State of Wisconsin has been transitioning to a new solution for securely accessing and participating in state services and systems
- You must register for a MyWisconsin ID to log into state websites and application
- For more information visit:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dms/my-wi-id.htm>

Questions?

Thank you

- Gov-D sign-up:
 - https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_49
- Please send questions/comments to DHSDMSBRS@dhs.Wisconsin.gov