

WSLHA

Name: Victor Moses

State Advocate for Reimbursement (Position)

Date Submitted to WSLHA BOARD: 4/15/18, period January-April 2018

Discussion/Agenda minutes:

January 2018:

- Conversations focused on CHIP renewal with legislation for continued funding pending.
- New Cognitive Code (97127/ G505): Note that some Medicaid agencies are now using the G-code used by Medicare, but most states have not implemented the use of new codes yet.
- Lack of messaging that Tri-Care West managing care through Healthnet. Notifications and updates posted to STAR community site.
- Telehealth
 - Reimbursement for services noted in the following states: Michigan (school system only), Montana (after in-person evaluation, no confirmation that this is accepted for practice in schools yet), New Mexico (covered by Medicaid), Rhode Island,
 - Legislation or licensure process pending in the following states: North Carolina, South Carolina,

February 2018:

- CHIP resolution passed, re-authorizing CHIP for 10 years.
- Medicaid Waivers- Kentucky and Indiana have filed lawsuits challenging Medicaid waivers. Several states currently considering use of waivers.
 - Several states requiring work requirements, demonstrating that people that “can work, will work,” and that people that can’t work shouldn’t have to be automatically funded by Medicaid
 - Would adjust the definition of “disability.”
 - Concern that waivers will actually take away health benefits
- 97127- continues to be implemented at state level slowly. Continue to collect information from each state regarding implementation of use and reimbursement.
- Block Grants/Budget- Current proposal includes significant cuts to Medicare and Medicaid programs. While this budget is not likely to be approved, it does set the tone for the direction of the financial picture of these programs with the current administration.

March 2018:

- More state waivers appearing, including work requirement criteria. Some waivers have included language with the intent to take apart the ACA.

- Raises questions about the definitions of
 - What does “able bodied” mean?
 - Definition of “work” (including volunteer activity)
- 92717- now listed on Medicaid fee rosters across the country, but listed with “\$0” charge in several states.
- Proposal for ASHA STAR panel presentation at ASHA 2018.

April 2018:

- Laurie Havens (Director of Private Health Plans and Medicaid Advocacy, ASHA STAR program) has drafted a resolution to the ASHA board of directors to take a position opposing state waivers (with the caveat that some work requirement waivers may be necessary. Focus on judicious and clear administrative approval of work requirements when needed).
 - Laurie’s draft proposal is being reviewed and will be submitted to the ASHA board.
- Mississippi is no longer covering cognitive therapy
- In Montana, Medicaid and BCBS MT are using G0515 code rather than the 97127 code. NC has never covered cognitive tx and does not allow 97127 or G0515.

Respectfully submitted by Victor Moses on 4/16/18