HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA®

HASC BRIEFS

Health Plans Begin Enrolling SPDs in Los Angeles Region

Representatives from L.A. Care and Health Net joined hospital members from around the Los Angeles region for an update on the transition of seniors and persons with disabilities (SPDs) to managed care plans, which began June 1. The transition is mandatory for Medi-Cal recipients, and is being implemented over the next 12 months based on birth month.

The SPD rollout is projected to impact more than 340,000 eligible enrollees across California, with approximately 172,000 in the Los Angeles region. Among those

impacted, 81 percent are disabled (including 14 to 15 percent from severe mental illness, and 21 percent who are developmentally disabled); 16.9 percent are aged; and 1.6 percent are blind. Forty-six percent will be 45 to 64 years of age.

In June, L.A. Care added 10,839 new enrollees, and Health Net expects nearly 70,000 over the next year. Although there were a large number of early enrollments, more than half of those eligible in the month of June were automatically assigned to a plan because they did not make a selection.

As the program is implemented, future considerations include expanding the provider network to meet the increased demand; creating specialized networks to address carve-out benefits like mental health and substance abuse; and ensuring members can access care in their area. A communications packet to help physicians and hospital staff answer questions about some of these considerations and the transition in general is available from L.A. Care.

Contact: George Mack
(213) 538-0717, gmack@hasc.org

Healthy Way LA Enrollment Begins July 1

Under the recently approved 1115 Waiver, Los Angeles County will launch its Low Income Health Program, called Healthy Way LA. This program, which is part of Medicaid expansion, is meant to provide insurance coverage to adults at 0-133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. There is no enrollment cap and the ultimate goal is to enroll all eligible Los Angeles County residents.

The reimbursement rate for the program remains at 50 percent, but revenue will now come from outside budget neutrality.

The initial phase of Healthy Way LA is to enroll existing DHS/Community Partners (formerly called PPP) patients (150,000 potentially eligible), including:

• DHS/PPP patients on General Relief (50,000+)
• Patients using both DHS and DMH services (8,000)

The next enrollment wave will target homeless, General Relief and DMH high utilizers not currently using DHS/PPP.

The Healthy Way LA service network will include all DHS and community partner sites as well as hospitals that include Antelope Valley Hospital and UCLA. The County will provide transportation to Healthy Way LA members who reside in the San Gabriel Valley who need to visit LAC+USC Medical Center. Additional clinic sites may be added via RFSI process (FQHCs and CCEP sites).

Healthy Way LA will reimburse

private hospitals for ER and post-stabilization care to members. Prior authorization will be required for admission. Reimbursement will be at 30 percent of regional CMAC rate.

In addition to current benefits, the program will feature:
• Mental health services
• Out-of-network emergency and post-stabilization care
• New access standards
• Initial health assessment
• Non-emergency transportation (with prior authorization)
• Due process standards and procedures

For information on patient eligibility and authorization, hospitals can call (877) 333-4952.

Contact: Jaime Garcia
(213) 538-0702, jgarcia@hasc.org

LA Department of Mental Health Will Continue Psychiatric Mobile Response Team Services

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) has announced that it will continue to provide Psychiatric Mobile Response Team (PMRT) response services to non-designated hospital emergency rooms for patients requiring a mental health consultation for purposes of 5150/5585 determination, based upon DMH's currently available resources.

DMH had originally proposed to eliminate PMRT services as of July 1. Based upon a series of meetings HASC's hospital workgroup held with DMH, DMH has reversed its decision.

Request for service to ERs will be considered after the following criteria are satisfied:
• Patient is medically cleared
• Patient is not under the influence and is able to be interviewed
• Patient is medically stable for transport
• Hospital staff have completed a psychosocial assessment and faxed the information to DMH ACCESS/PMRT for review

While the same PMRT services are being provided, HASC and DMH will continue to meet to identify solutions that address the issues of timely response as well as access to outpatient services. This can include tele mental health services as well as linking hospitals to mental health navigators whose role is to link patients being discharged to outpatient services, thereby helping to reduce unnecessary hospital readmissions.

Contact: Jaime Garcia (213) 538-0702, jgarcia@hasc.org

Riverside and San Bernardino Counties Designate Inland Empire Health Information Exchange to Advance Resident Health

Both Boards of Supervisors of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties have passed a joint resolution designating Inland Empire Health Information Exchange (IEHIE) as the Health Information Exchange network for their region.

IEHIE will connect Riverside and San Bernardino Counties with a broad array of health care providers, public and private hospitals, and ancillary health care services including the County of Riverside Department of Public Health, Riverside County Regional Medical Center, the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health, the County of San Bernardino, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and the Inland Empire Health Plan.

HASC has been instrumental in the establishment and ongoing development of the IEHIE, which will broaden the level of electronic health information exchange activities across the Inland Empire, enabling leaders of the health care community to organize around shared interests.

Joining a health information exchange is a key investment in advancing the health of the region's 4.2 million residents. IEHIE will enable physicians with the ability to exchange patient health information with other health care providers involved in their care and to view and contribute to a single, secure "continuity of care" record for each patient, including laboratory, pharmacy and clinical care information. Patients will have safe, secure access to their personal health information.

IEHIE's mission is to achieve continuity of care in the Inland Empire by allowing providers and patients trusted, timely and secure access to patient health information. IEHIE is a project of the 501(c)(3) Inland Empire EHR Resource Center, the Local Extension Center for the Inland Empire.

Contact: Christina Bivona-Tellez (951) 222-2284, cbivona-tellez@hasc.org

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Visit HASC on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/hospital-association-of-southern-california.
Contact: Denise Barrett, (213) 538-0728, dbarrett@hasc.org

OC Board of Supervisors Confirms Approval of $4 Million for MSI Hospital Pool

The Orange County Board of Supervisors approved the county budget this week, including $4 million for the Medical Services Initiative (MSI) Hospital Pool approved earlier on a unanimous straw vote providing direction to staff. The vote on the overall budget was 4-1.

Once they are matched with federal dollars in the Medi-Cal Waiver's coverage expansion program (the Low Income Health Program), the new funds will increase hospital payments from an average of 28 cents to the dollar of actual cost, to an average of 38 cents to the dollar of actual cost.

This successful outcome was the result of strong collaboration among HASC, members of the HASC MSI Committee, and hospital CEOs who participated in the advocacy effort.

Contact: Julie Puentes (714) 663-0294, jpuentes@hasc.org

Southern California Patient Safety Collaborative Track II Meeting Focuses on Facility-Acquired Pressure Ulcers, Readmissions, Care Transitions

The June 21 Track II meeting of the Southern California Patient Safety Collaborative focused on Facility-Acquired Pressure Ulcers, Readmissions and Transitions of Care.

Fast Facts, a one-page meeting summary of highlights, is distributed after the meeting. This communication tool is designed to offer senior leaders the information shared and to provide a tool that can be used to facilitate a short debriefing with meeting attendees. For *Fast Facts* from this meeting, please visit the SCPSC Track II section of www.hasc.org.

Key topics from the meeting included:

• *Care Transitions and Evidence-Based Care: Emerging Trends and Best Practices*
• *The Care Transition Journey – Florida's Experience*
• *Project BOOST CA*

Interactive breakout sessions focused on:
• *Wound Care / PU & Falls Reduction and Prevention*
• *Maintaining Post-Operative Skin Integrity after Long Duration Surgery*
• *Care Transitions Panel Discussion*

SCPSC meetings are presented by HASC, Health Services Advisory Group and the National Health Foundation, and take place at Pacific Palms Conference Resort, Industry Hills.

The next SCPSC meeting, for Track III focusing on Perinatal Care, is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13.

Partners for *Patient Safety First…a California Partnership for Health* include:
• Anthem Blue Cross
• The three regional hospital associations of California: Southern California, San Diego & Imperial Counties, and Northern & Central California
• The National Health Foundation

Contact: Julia Slininger (213) 538-0766, jslininger@hasc.org

New HASC Website

Introducing the all-new www.hasc.org. To help you make the most of your membership, we've created a website that's simple to use and filled with resources that are easy to share. Take a look around -- and let us know what you think.

Save the Date

6th Annual Hospital Hero Awards Luncheon
Friday, 11/11/11
Marriott Hotel - Downtown
Los Angeles (new location)
Event details to follow soon...