

SC Medicaid Seeks Provider Input on New MCO Contract Language

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has developed a standardized subcontract boilerplate for all providers who contract with Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). The new subcontract boilerplate is a result of a collaborative effort between representatives of SCDHHS, the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), and South Carolina Medical Association Society of Managed Care Contractors and will be replacing existing subcontracts utilized by the MCOs over the next four years.

Currently, each Medicaid MCO has multiple boilerplate contracts specific to each of the MCOs. A provider who wishes to participate with an MCO(s) must read multiple contracts; and, if the provider and MCO make any changes to these subcontracts, the MCO must submit the contracts, with changes, to SCDHHS for review and approval prior to execution by either part. This review/approval process can result in additional costs and delays.

SCDHHS wished to simplify the process with standard language that applies to all providers who wish to contract with the Medicaid MCOs. The proposed SCDHHS standardized subcontract boilerplate is divided into four Articles:

- **Article I** will standardize and encompass all the Federal, State and SCDHHS required language. The language in Article 1 cannot and must not be altered, modified, or changed by either the MCO or the provider. This will remove SCDHHS from the review/approval process and allow the providers and MCOs to focus on the requirements necessary to conclude their business and financial agreements;
- **Article II** includes the scope of service being rendered by the provider;
- **Article III** lists the facilities and or additional providers who are attached to the contract;
- **Article IV** includes the financial and business arrangement negotiated between the provider and the MCO.

Effective today, April 28, 2011, the subcontract boilerplate will be available for review on the SCDHHS website www.scdhhs.gov under MC Information. Comments and suggestions are encouraged and should be directed to Tim Hartnett at harttim@scdhhs.gov. All comments must be received no later than June 15, 2011.

Effective July 1, 2011, the MCOs will begin implementation of the new boilerplate subcontract for all new providers and for existing providers as their contracts are renewed.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact the Division of Managed Care at (803) 898-4614. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid Program.