

Affordable Care Act Implementation Updates

Joel Diringer, JD, MPH

April 2014



Covered California

- Open enrollment extension ended April 15
- Next open enrollment for 2015 - starts in Fall
- Special enrollment - see handout
- Medi-Cal enrollment is year round

Statewide enrollment

- 1.4 million Californians enrolled for Covered CA health insurance and selected plans through April 15;
 - 88% subsidized
 - 41% self enrolled; 39% through agents; 9% through Certified Enrollment Counselors (half of CEC users were Latino)
 - 28% Latino; .24% Spanish speakers
 - Young adults 18 - 34 years: 29% of enrollment
- 1.9 million Californians enrolled in Medi-Cal through March 31. 800,000 applications still pending.
 - 1.1 million through Covered CA and Counties
 - 650,000 LIHP transitions
 - 180,000 Express Lane (food stamps)
 - 38% Latino; 27% White; 17% Asian; 6% African-American

Provider networks

- Anthem-Blue Cross
 - www.Anthem.com/ca - Find a provider: choose Pathway X - PPO
- Blue Shield
 - www.blueshieldca.com/fap/app/search.html
 - Choose 2014 Individual and Family PPO plans

Provider networks

- Problems?
 - Contact health plan directly
 - Contact Covered California (800) 300-1506
 - Department of Managed Health Care Help and Information Help Center: (888) 466-2219
 - Health Consumer Alliance -(800) 675-8001

Medicare provider reimbursement

- “GPCI Fix” signed into law
- 14 counties, including SLO, have been erroneously classified as rural for reimbursement resulting in underpayments of up to 10% annually
- New law will transition all Medicare physician payment localities to same methods as hospital payment - in SLO increase may be from .5 - 1%
- Beginning 2017, rates will be phased in by 1/6th each year for full implementation in 2021/22.