State Demonstrations Group

Dan Tsai
Assistant Secretary
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
One Ashburton Place
11th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Tsai:

This letter is to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Massachusetts’ proposed changes to its Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Protocol for Massachusetts’ section 1115 demonstration, entitled MassHealth (Project Number 11-W-00030/1). The DSRIP Protocol sets forth guidelines for how the Commonwealth will operate Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), in addition to other DSRIP initiatives like Statewide Investments and Community Partners. This Protocol also lays out how ACOs, Community Partners (CPs), Community Service Agencies (CSAs), and the Commonwealth will be financially at risk for performance outcome measures.

These proposed changes are effective as of July 1, 2018, unless otherwise specified. CMS agrees with these changes, as they are a result of lessons learned from the Commonwealth’s work implementing the DSRIP program. The Commonwealth’s changes to the Protocol include, but are not limited to:

- Grammatical and formatting fixes;
- Clarifying programmatic operations across the DSRIP;
- Modifying the launch date of CPs to be July 1, 2018;
- Modifying the quality scoring methodology for ACOs, effective March 1, 2018;
- Modifying the methodology by which the Commonwealth is accountable to CMS for performance on quality measures and total cost of care performance;
- Modifying the Statewide Investments payment stream distribution;
- Clarifying when MassHealth will submit CP and CSA benchmarks to CMS;
- Updating the measure slates for ACOs, CPs, and CSAs;
- Modifying the methodology for how MassHealth calculates CP infrastructure payments;
- Modifying the CP care coordination payment section of the Protocol.
Your project officer is Mr. Eli Greenfield, who may be reached at (410) 786-6157 and through e-mail at Eli.Greenfield@cms.hhs.gov. Communications regarding program matters and official correspondence concerning the demonstration should be submitted to Mr. Greenfield at the following address:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid & CHIP Services
Mail Stop: S2-01-16
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Official communications regarding program matters should be sent simultaneously to Mr. Greenfield and to Mr. Richard McGreal, Associate Regional Administrator in our Boston Regional Office. Mr. McGreal’s contact information is as follows:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
JFK Federal Building
Room 2325
Boston, MA 02203
Telephone: (617) 565-1226
E-mail: Richard.McGreal@cms.hhs.gov

CMS looks forward to continuing work with your staff on future developments within your demonstration.

Sincerely,

Angela D. Garner
Director
Division of System Reform Demonstrations

cc: Richard McGreal, Associate Regional Administrator, Region I
    Julie McCarthy, Region I