SNP Stakeholder Meeting for Seniors and People with Disabilities in Managed Care

11/4/19

Gretchen Ulbee, Manager of Special Needs Purchasing, DHS
1. Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome and introductions - Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

2. Account Validation Service (AVS)

3. Annual health plan selection

4. Plans available for 2020 and update on procurement

5. Contracting update

6. Letters: Enrollees turning 65

7. Stakeholder comments and questions

8. Wrap up and next meeting
2. Account Validation Service (AVS)

2) Sam Reyes, Health Care Policy, DHS
Account Validation Service (AVS)

Health Care Eligibility and Access
• Overview of the AVS
• Authorization to obtain financial information
• Unreported financial accounts
• Transition group
• Questions?
Account Validation Service (AVS) Overview
• Federal law requires states to use an electronic asset verification system
  (Section 1940 of the Social Security Act)

• Implementation in Minnesota September 1, 2019

• Minnesota’s system is called the Account Validation Service
What is the AVS?

• A step in the eligibility process

• Validates the accounts reported

• Identifies unreported accounts

• 90% of the results should be returned within 10 days

• Results can be reported for up to 90 days
The AVS is:

- NOT a verification source
- NOT able to do real time data exchange
AVS Information

AVS will provide information about accounts held at participating financial institutions:

- Checking
- Savings
- Christmas club
- CDs
- Trust accounts
AVS will **NOT** provide information about:

- Life insurance issued by insurance companies
- Property
- Purchases through a brokerage firm
  - Stocks
  - Bonds
  - Mutual funds
- Individual transactions such as deposits and withdrawals
Impacted Groups

- **MA-ABD** (Age 65+, Blind, Disability)
- **MSP** (Medicare Savings Program)
- **MA-LTC** (long term care) Waivers and LTCF with an ABD basis
- **EPD** (Employed Persons with Disabilities)
When the AVS is Required

• Application

• Change in eligibility basis to MA-ABD with an asset test

• Renewal
Authorization to Obtain Financial Information
Authorization to Obtain Financial Information

• To be eligible for MA, the applicant or enrollee must sign the Authorization to Obtain Financial Information from the Account Validation Service (AVS) form (DHS-7823).

• The form (DHS-7823) must also be signed by the following people, if their assets deem to the applicant or enrollee:
  • spouse
  • sponsor
  • sponsor’s spouse
• No other authorization or release form may be used in place of the Authorization to Obtain Financial Information form (DHS-7823).

• Any person who has the authority to act on a person’s behalf may sign the authorization to obtain financial information form.

• The authorization must be kept in the person’s file.
Authorization Duration

MA eligibility is closed for one calendar month or more

The MA basis of eligibility is no longer MA-ABD

The MA application is denied

The person withdraws the authorization in writing
Unreported Assets
Unreported Accounts

• Information received about an account through the AVS that was not reported is treated as inconsistent information.

• The worker must contact the applicant or enrollee to resolve the inconsistency.

• Workers must assist people to resolve the inconsistent information.

• The application remains pending or MA continues while the person is cooperating with resolving the discrepancy.
AVS Transition Group
Enrollees who applied before September 1, 2019, are required to sign the authorization form as a condition of eligibility.

- DHS will send a request for information and the Authorization to Obtain Financial Information form (DHS-7823) to current MA-ABD, MA-EPD, MA-LTC, and MSP enrollees who have an asset test and who have a renewal due in 2020.

- Mailing will occur in monthly increments beginning in September 2019, with the final mailing in April 2020.

- The request for information will explain the requirement to authorize DHS to request information through the AVS and request the return of the signed authorization form (DHS-7823) to the agency within 10 days.
• Enrollees must not lose MA eligibility due to not signing the authorization to obtain financial information before their mailing date.

• Workers must assist enrollees who are cooperating or attempting to cooperate.
Questions
3. Annual Health Plan Selection

3) Annual Health Plan Selection: Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

- Open enrollment runs until December 5; letters started going out early October

- No change in health plans offered in most counties for SNBC and Seniors

- More options for Integrated SNBC in over 40 counties through existing plans

- People age 65 and older enrolled in SCHA must change health plan if residing in Todd, Morrison or Wadena counties; special letter sent to MSHO enrollees

- No health plans available in Morrison, Todd and Wadena for people under age 65 with disabilities enrolled in SCHA
4. Plans Available for 2020 and Update on Procurement

4) Plans available for 2020 and update on procurement: Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

- DHS issued request for proposals for the Seniors and Families and Children contracts for 2020.
- Proposals were submitted and scored, a lawsuit was filed and many counties requested mediations. DHS cancelled the 2020 procurement, resulting in no changes in health plan service areas due to procurement in 2020.
5) Contracting update: Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

New requirement: Minimum payment rates for managed long term services and supports
6) Letters - Enrollees turning age 65: Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

• Development work underway to automate letters for all people turning age 65

• Thanks to stakeholders for help in improving the wording of the letters
7) Stakeholder comments and questions: Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS
8. Wrap Up and Next Meeting

8) Wrap up and next meeting- Gretchen Ulbee, Special Needs Purchasing, DHS
Thank you

Special Needs Purchasing, DHS

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