

Hemophilia Council of California
Advocacy & Policy Webinar

The State of the State of Healthcare in CA What You Need to Know

*Presented by
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Terri Cowger Hill, Cowger & Associates*



HCC's 2021
Advocacy &
Policy Webinar
Series



If HCC Had Another “C”

- Increase **Communication** between all stakeholders within the Bleeding Disorders community
- **Collaborate** in sharing information related to state legislative & regulatory issues
- Enhance **Coordination** among patients, chapters, HTC's and other providers
- **Collect** stakeholder data to have maximum advocacy impact
- Accelerate community **Contribution** when state issues arise or information/data is requested
- Better understand **Compliance** standards within the state to make sure they provide maximum benefit to the bleeding disorders community

After a year like 2020, what is the outlook for 2021?

- COVID-19 turned our world upside down and continues to strain our economy and health care system
- Advocacy is more important than ever – even as so many of our programs have continued in a virtual format
- We will continue advocating to improve access to care and treatment options to advance the quality of life for people with bleeding disorders.

COVID-19 Response & Resources

We've had a lot of questions about COVID-19 resources, testing and vaccines.

NHF Resources –

<https://www.hemophilia.org/news/covid-19-mitigation-treatment-and-vaccines>

<https://www.hemophilia.org/news/covid-19-vaccines-and-bleeding-disorders-frequently-asked-questions-faqs>

State of California Resources –

<https://covid19.ca.gov/get-tested/>

<https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>



California Update

Terri Cowger Hill –

- Principal with Cowger & Associates – health policy expert and long-time legislative advocate for the Hemophilia Council of California

Key points in the Governor's Proposed Budget



- Governor introduced \$227 billion state budget proposal for fiscal year 2021-22
- More than half - \$126 billion – is earmarked for healthcare
- There is also \$4.4 billion set aside for the COVID-19 pandemic
- In addition, there is \$1.1 billion set aside for CalAIM (Whole Person Care)
- Plus \$94 million for Telehealth

Specific Details in the 2021 State Budget

- The \$4.4 billion set aside for the COVID-19 pandemic will include federal funds
- The money will be used for vaccine administration and response, as well as increased caseload in the Medi-Cal program (many people lost their jobs during the pandemic and are now on Medi-Cal)
- The \$94 million for Telehealth will be used to make permanent and expand certain telehealth flexibilities put in place to improve access to providers and address health disparities and inequities for key communities



**Governor
Newsom's
Newer
Proposals :

CalAim**

- The Governor is setting aside \$1.1 billion for the new CalAIM proposal
- It is basically “whole person care” for those in Medi-Cal Managed Care in CA to better coordinate the delivery of physical, behavioral and oral health care services
- It requires federal approval via a waiver

**Governor
Newsom's
Newer
Proposals :
CalRx**

CalRx proposes to save \$621 million by moving Rx purchasing from Medi-Cal Managed Care to Fee-for-Service

CalRx would:

1. Create a Medi-Cal best price proposal for drugs
2. Additional rebates for non Medi-Cal drugs
3. Increase the State's purchasing power
4. Create a new generic drug contracting program
5. Have Magellan (contractor) process claims for all outpatient and drugs for home use starting April 1, 2021

The Governor's eyes are on the CA Pocket Book



New Reimbursement Rates for Factor: from ASP+20% to AAC + 4 cents/14 cents per unit (non-HTC/HTC) went into effect July 1, 2020.

CalRx, the Governor's Value-Based Pharmacy Purchasing Proposal for 2021

Have new Factor Reimbursement Rates Impacted Patients with Bleeding Disorders?

- New rate is Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC) + 4 cents/unit for specialty pharmacies, AAC + 14 cents/unit for HTC's
- These rates went into effect on July 1, 2020.
- HCC has been monitoring for any access issues that may impact the bleeding disorders community
- We need your help to identify any/all access issues which arise!

Will Medi-Cal Rx Impact Patients with Bleeding Disorders?

- Factor has long been treated differently than most other drugs: It has been carved out of managed care insurance plans and reimbursed separately by the state. Under Medi-Cal Rx – all pharmacy benefits will now be carved out
- HCC has begun the dialogue with DHCS to help ensure patients continue to receive their factor and other medications in a timely fashion when CalRx goes live on April 1, 2021
- We have been told that Magellan must follow all DHCS policy for factor and other medications, but we will continue to monitor
- Patients should not see any difference after April 1, but anyone who experiences a delay or denial should reach out if they need assistance.

What is Fee-For- Service VS Managed Care?

Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service (FFS)

- Doctors and other health care providers are paid for each service performed. The patient usually has a broad choice of providers.
- States create their payment methodologies.
- FFS are typically used to address high needs populations – e.g. severe chronic illnesses or individuals in remote areas.

Medi-Cal Managed Care

- Organizes health care services with goals of being more efficient and lower cost. More restrictive network and requires prior authorization.
- Uses county organized health systems (COHSs) & other models.
- Core features of managed care:
 - Integration of financing, insurance, delivery, and payment
 - Formal control over utilization

How does Managed Care affect Patients with Bleeding Disorders?

HCC has been monitoring the CCS Whole Child Model Managed Care Pilot

- Historically, HCC has lobbied, along with our rare disease colleagues, to keep CCS and GHPP patients out of managed care.
- During the past three years, many CCS patients have been rolled into the Whole Child Pilot.
- Managed care can be successful for our community, but we must remain vigilant to ensure that managed care does not erect barriers to appropriate treatment.
- You can help by reporting any issues you or your patients experience.

Other proposals & issues to watch



- HCC to introduce a resolution declaring March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in California
- We anticipate step-therapy measures will be reintroduced from last year
- Co-pay accumulator adjustors and co-pay caps will likely be addressed
- Possible Telemedicine proposals



**Keep in mind:
some of this is simply proposed and not
yet final or complete!**

**Your voices are critical to help shape
these proposals into policies that
benefit and do not harm our
community.**

GHPP & CCS



- Apart from the impact of CalRx, GHPP and CCS programs remain essentially the same and are fully funded in the Governor's budget.
- It is absolutely critical that patients research and understand all their coverage options – including private insurance, Covered California, Medi-Cal, GHPP and CCS.
- HCC is available to assist patients and local foundations in researching and understanding the available programs.

Understanding Your Benefits - GHPP

GHPP Benefits:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ghpp/Pages/Benefits.aspx>

Special Care Centers

- i.e. Hemophilia Treatment Centers

Hospital stay & Outpatient Medical
Pharmaceutical Services

- Medications prescribed by your doctor
- **Home infusion therapy**

Surgeries

Nutrition Products and Medical Foods

Durable Medical Equipment

Other Services

- Home health services
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Mental health services
- Medical supplies

****Note – Each service has specific criteria for approval and must be medically necessary and appropriate to be approved.**

Understanding Your Benefits - CCS

Benefits:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs>

- CCS may be able to help your child with a doctor visit and testing to find out if there is a special health problem.
- If your child has a special health problem that is covered by CCS, then CCS may pay for or help with:
- Doctor visits and care, hospital stays, surgery, physical therapy and occupational therapy, tests, X-rays, medical equipment, and medical supplies
- Medical case management to help get special doctors and to refer you to other agencies, such as public health nursing and regional centers
- Medical Therapy Program, which provides physical therapy and/or occupational therapy in public school

Mental Health Resources

California Resources for Emotional Support & Well-Being

- If you have **Medi-Cal** and are in need of mental health services, call the number on your health plan membership card, or call your local county mental health line. For help finding what services are covered, call the Medi-Cal Managed Care and Mental Health Office of the Ombudsman at 888-452-8609 Monday through Friday from 8am – 5pm.
- If you have a health plan through your **employer or purchase your own** health insurance, and are in need of mental health services, call the number on your health plan membership card.
- If you feel like you are coping with your stress by drinking or taking drugs, there is help available from the substance use disorder programs in your county or call the national treatment locator at 800-662-HELP.

If you are a patient on GHPP (Genetically Handicapped Persons Program)

- Mental Health Services are listed under the benefits:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ghpp/Pages/Benefits.aspx>
- The referral must come from your Special Care Center (SCC) or Primary Care Physician (PCP). If you think that you need to see a specialist, contact your SCC physician or nurse coordinator to obtain a referral. The specialist must be a Medi-Cal Provider and willing to accept Medi-Cal rate for payment and must coordinate the care with your SCC and PCP.

What HCC has planned for 2021

- Policy & Advocacy Webinar Series
- NHF Virtual Washington Days (register by Feb 5)
- Future Leaders – **watch for registration soon!**
- Legislative Day (April 12 – 14)
- Policy Summits (Feb 25 & Sept 23)
- Policy News and Action Alerts
- Collaboration with your Local Foundation

Overview of Upcoming Webinars



Upcoming webinars will take a deeper dive into...

- The Power of Lobbying: Demystifying the Process and Using Your Voice to Be Heard
- Telling Without Yelling: A Workshop on the Art of Telling Your Story (Part 1 & 2)
- The Time is Now: Legislative Day 2021 – a Virtual Advocacy Primer
- and more...

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Questions?

HCC's 2021
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Thank you for joining us!

Reminder: this webinar is part of a series of educational webinars presented by the Hemophilia Council of California.

A recording and slides will be available in a few weeks at

<http://www.hemophiliaca.org/programs/webinars/>

NEED HELP? Contact Lynne Kinst at (916) 572-7771 or lkinst@hemophiliaca.org