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Ohio Department of Medicaid

## Managed Care Procurement Press

August 19, 2020

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**Hello!**

Welcome to the *ODM Managed Care Procurement Press*, a short periodic update on the progress of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) Managed Care Procurement.

You are receiving this newsletter because you have requested to receive periodic updates about the Managed Care Procurement, responded to one or both of our Requests for Information (RFIs), met with ODM and Procurement Team members to provide feedback, or partnered with us in a listening session.

Thank you for taking time to provide your ideas and feedback! Through this time of uncertainty and need for many Ohioans, and into the future, we continue to focus on the individual rather than the business of managed care. We want to do better for the people we serve.



Feel free to distribute the information contained within this update to your colleagues, organization's members, or with anyone who you think might find it useful. We want all Ohioans to know what is going on with the ODM Managed Care Procurement.

Please also encourage anyone who you think might be interested in receiving similar updates to send us an email at the Medicaid managed care procurement mailbox, [MCPurchasement@medicaid.ohio.gov](mailto:MCPurchasement@medicaid.ohio.gov).

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**Bringing It All Together For the Future Ohio Medicaid Program**

Our new video, "[Bringing It All Together For the Future Ohio Medicaid Program](#)," highlights the efforts underway that will result in implementation of many of the changes envisioned for the future Ohio Medicaid managed care program.



*Video - Bringing It All Together For the Future Ohio Medicaid Program*

These efforts - the Medicaid Managed Care Procurement, a specialized program for children with complex behavioral health needs, the Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager (SPBM), Centralized Credentialing, and Fiscal Intermediary (FI) - will complement one another to support ODM in achieving our mission to focus on the individual rather than the business of managed care.

Visit the [Learn About Medicaid Managed Care](#), [Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager \(SPBM\)](#), [Fiscal Intermediary](#), and [Centralized Credentialing](#) pages on [managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov](http://managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov) for additional details about each of these efforts and how they will help us do better for the people we serve.

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## Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager (SPBM)

On Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, ODM released its Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager (SPBM). As part of the current budget bill, the Ohio Legislature directed ODM to select and contract with a SPBM. The RFP and additional details about the SPBM procurement process can be found on the [Request for Proposal page of ODM's website](#).



*Ohio Medicaid website -- Announcing the Release of the SPBM*

### *Goals of Ohio's SPBM*

Today, each of Ohio Medicaid's managed care organizations (MCOs) contract with a separate PBM for their members. The goal of the SPBM is to develop and implement a single system to improve management and administration of pharmacy benefits for Ohio Medicaid managed care recipients while decreasing costs to the state. By contracting with a single PBM for the entire managed care program, ODM and the State will be equipped with the right tools, resources, and partners to achieve these goals.

### *Features of Ohio's SPBM*

By shifting program oversight and management, SPBM will see increased financial accountability and ensure alignment with ODM's clinical and policy goals, while also improving transparency. The move to a SPBM streamlines the oversight process,

removing the challenge of monitoring and directing multiple PBMs. This shift also increases the availability and consistency of data to drive accountability and support ODM in improving health outcomes. In addition, to avoid conflicts of interest with the SPBM, a third-party Operational Support Vendor (OSV) will assist ODM in accurately developing price points and dispensing fees for pharmacy providers and conduct concurrent and retrospective audits of SPBM performance.

For Medicaid managed care members, the SPBM will provide more choice in selecting their pharmacy due to fewer out-of-network restrictions. In addition, members will no longer need to consider pharmacy benefits as a decision-making factor when selecting a managed care plan. The SPBM can also incentivize member-valued services and benefits like home delivery, 90 day refills, and adherence programs.

Through the SPBM, pharmacists and prescribers will see benefits from streamlining and consolidation of processes currently provided by multiple, individually contracted PBMs. For example, pharmacists can streamline inventory based on the Unified Preferred Drug List (UPDL) and a single set of guidelines. The SPBM will also include implementation of a single set of clinical and prior authorization policies and claims process and provide a standard point of contact, reducing the administrative burden on providers. These changes simplify and improve information exchange between pharmacies, providers, and MCOs to drive improved member care management opportunities.

For additional details about the future Ohio Medicaid managed care program and the SPBM procurement, visit [the SPBM page on managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov](https://managedcare.medicaid.ohio.gov).

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## ODM Webinar on Future Managed Care Program for Kids with Complex Behavioral Health Needs

On Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern, ODM will host a webinar to provide an overview of how the future Medicaid managed care program aims to better serve children and adolescents with complex behavioral health needs.

Ohio Medicaid members and their families, caregivers, advocates, providers, association members, and any other interested parties are invited to attend. Pre-registration is required and can be completed at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2817800221077631502>.

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### Connect With Us



Our email address will remain active through all phases of the procurement! We are always open to your ideas and feedback.

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