



**MACPAC**  
Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission



# **The Effect of Medicaid Coverage of Medicare Cost Sharing on Access to Care**

Katie Weider

January 22, 2015

# Presentation Outline

- Past Commission work
- Chapter overview for March 2015 Report
  - History of Medicaid payment of Medicare cost sharing
  - Study findings on the effect of cost-sharing policies on use of services
  - Administration of Medicare cost-sharing payments
- Next steps

# Overview of Past Commission Work

- March 2013 report chapter on lesser-of payment policies
- October 2014 Commission meeting and contractor report with research findings
- December 2014 Commission meeting

# History of Medicaid Payment of Medicare Cost Sharing

- Began in 1965 and evolved over time
- Four separate Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs) and full Medicaid benefits differing by:
  - individuals served
  - benefits offered
  - financing mechanism
- State lesser-of payment policies

# MACPAC Study on Effect of Cost-Sharing Policies on Use of Medicare Outpatient Services

- Medicaid payments varied across states
- For dually eligible beneficiaries, higher Medicaid payment of Medicare cost sharing is associated with:
  - an increased likelihood of having a Medicare outpatient office visit, using preventive services, and having an outpatient psychotherapy visit
  - a decreased likelihood of using safety net provider services (defined as FQHCs, RHCs, and hospital outpatient departments)

# Administration of Payments for Medicare Cost Sharing

- Claims payment processes that may be inefficient
- Medicare bad debt payments

# Next Steps

- Finalize chapter
- Present additional information on MSP eligibility and enrollment policies at February meeting



**MACPAC**  
Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission



# **The Effect of Medicaid Coverage of Medicare Cost Sharing on Access to Care**

Katie Weider

January 22, 2015