

December 9, 2022

Congressional Request for Information

Data and recommendations to improve care for dually eligible beneficiaries

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Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission



www.macpac.gov

Overview

- Congressional request for information (RFI)
- Areas for potential MACPAC comment
 - Requiring state strategies to integrate care
 - State capacity to integrate care
 - Considerations for a unified program
- Next steps



Congressional Request for Information

- On November 23, 2022, Senator Cassidy and five other bipartisan senators released a request for information on data and recommendations for improving care for dually eligible beneficiaries
- The RFI asks a series of questions about reforming coverage for the dually eligible population, informed by three principles
 - Diversity of needs of the dually eligible population
 - Range of state capabilities to support care for dually eligible beneficiaries
 - Financial incentives that drive health system behaviors on outcomes and efficiency

Areas for Potential MACPAC Comment

- Requiring state strategies to integrate care
 - Chapter 5 of MACPAC’s June 2022 report to Congress
 - Recommendation that states be required to develop an integrated care strategy for their full-benefit dually eligible populations
- State capacity to integrate care
 - Ongoing theme in MACPAC’s work on integrated care
 - States face barriers to integration and many states need a place to start
- Considerations for a unified program
 - Chapter 4 of MACPAC’s March 2021 report to Congress

Requiring State Strategies to Integrate Care

- The congressional RFI asks for policy recommendations to improve integration between Medicare and Medicaid
- Potential areas for MACPAC comment:
 - In our June 2022 report to Congress, MACPAC recommended that Congress authorize the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to require that all states develop a strategy to integrate Medicaid and Medicare coverage for full-benefit dually eligible beneficiaries, to include these components-integration approach, eligibility and benefits covered, enrollment strategy, beneficiary protections, data analytics, quality measurement-and be structured to promote health equity
 - The Commission also recommended that Congress provide additional federal funding to support states in their efforts to integrate care



State Capacity to Integrate Care

- The congressional RFI acknowledges varying levels of capacity to integrate care across states and looks for proposed reforms to be grounded in reasonable expectations for what states have the desire and capacity to do
- Potential areas for MACPAC comment
 - States face barriers
 - Competing priorities
 - Limited staff capacity and resources
 - Lack of Medicare knowledge
 - States need a place to start

Considerations for a Unified Program

- The congressional RFI asks about the need for a new, unified system and for insights on what it should look like
- Potential areas for MACPAC comment
 - Goals of a unified program
 - Administration
 - State flexibility
 - Other considerations

Next Steps

- Based on feedback from today's session, staff will prepare a comment letter in response to the congressional RFI for review by a subset of Commissioners
- Comments are due January 13, 2023

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