

Medicaid Redesign Team Waiver Amendment: Information and Fact Sheet

Background: Governor Cuomo established the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) by Executive Order upon taking office in January 2011, bringing together stakeholders and experts from throughout the state to work cooperatively to reform the system and reduce costs.

In Phase 1, the MRT provided a blueprint for lowering Medicaid spending in State Fiscal Year 2011-12 by \$2.2 billion. This phase was completed in February 2011 when the MRT submitted an initial report to meet the Governor's Medicaid spending target contained in his 2011-2012 Executive Budget. The initial report included 79 recommendations to redesign and restructure the Medicaid program to be more efficient and get better results for patients. 78 recommendations were approved by the Legislature as part of the enacted budget and are now being implemented. The recommendations met the Governor's Medicaid budget target, introduced significant structural reforms that will bend the Medicaid cost curve, and achieved the savings without any cuts to eligibility.

The MRT continued its innovative work in Phase 2 by establishing 10 work groups to address more complex issues, as well as monitoring the implementation of key recommendations enacted in Phase 1. These work groups provided an additional 175 stakeholders the opportunity to participate in the MRT process. All work group meetings were public and multiple public hearings were held.

The efforts of the MRT resulted in a multi-year road map that will lead toward a more efficient program and system that is affordable and will achieve better health outcomes for New Yorkers. The multi-year action plan, when fully implemented will not only improve health outcomes for more than five million New Yorkers but also bend the state's Medicaid cost curve. Significant federal savings have already been realized through New York's MRT process and substantial savings will also accrue as part of this action plan.

Current status: A groundbreaking Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment will be necessary to fully implement the MRT action plan. The waiver amendment will allow the state to reinvest in its health care infrastructure as well as the freedom to innovate. The waiver amendment will also allow the state to prepare for implementation of national health care reform as well as effectively bend the cost curve for the state's overall health care system.

New York is committed to engaging stakeholders and the greater public in Medicaid reform and Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation. The MRT is a national model for how stakeholders can work together to develop a comprehensive reform agenda even during the most trying times. New York used a similar approach to engage stakeholders around key ACA provisions such as the health insurance exchange and Health Homes. New York is committed to continuing the MRT tradition and rigorously engaging the public, to ensure transparency as it works to finalize an 1115 Medicaid waiver amendment.

The areas of reinvestment focused on in the MRT Waiver amendment will include: Primary Care Expansion, Health Home Development, New Care Models, Expand the Vital Access Provider Program and Safety Net Provider Program, Public Hospital Innovation: New Models of Care for the Uninsured, Medicaid Supportive Housing Expansion, Managed Long Term Care Preparation Program, Capital

Stabilization for Safety Net Hospitals, Hospital Transition, Workforce Training, Public Health Innovation, Regional Health Planning, MRT Waiver and Evaluation Program.

More information is available at the MRT website

(http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/) and MRT Waiver amendment website

(http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt_waiver.htm).

If you would like more information, would like translated copies of the waiver amendment document, or would like to submit your thoughts on the MRT waiver, please email mrtwaiver@health.state.ny.us or mail your request to:

Attn: Jason Helgerson

Office of Health Insurance Programs

New York State Department of Health

Corning Tower

Albany, NY 12224