MEQC

MEQC

Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control

MEQC

Training Objectives

Understand:

- Purpose of MEQC
- Types of reviews
- Your responsibilities
  - When receiving a request
  - When responding to a finding
  - After receiving the Individual Site Report

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What is MEQC?

- Purpose of MEQC
  - Monitor the accuracy and timeliness of Medicaid eligibility determinations to avoid inappropriate payments and client determination delays
  - Identify methods to reduce and prevent errors related to incorrect eligibility determinations

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MEQC Authority

Federal Authority

- Social Security Act – Title 19
- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 42 C.F.R. § 431.800 – 431.865

Federal Agency

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is the Federal agency that monitors MEQC

State Authority

- 10 C.C.R. 2505-10 Section 8.080 Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control (Volume 8)

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Types of MEQC Reviews

Topic	Traditional	Pilot
Time Periods	Every six months: September – April and October – March.	Varies – depends on agreement with CMS.
Sampling	550 active cases and 210 negative cases annually.	Fluctuates depending on the complexity of the pilot.
Objective	Broad eligibility reviews of all categories.	Dependent on proposed focus area and CMS approval.
Method of Review	Variety of methods. Must also do payment reviews.	Variety of methods.
Corrective Action	Must take action to correct issues. Correction plan must be submitted within 60 days of identification of error.	Same as traditional. Correction plan with recommendations at the end of each pilot.
Disallowances	3% error rate or less-otherwise subject to disallowances.	Error rate is frozen.
Population Excluded	Foster care, SSI, SCHIP or programs that are 100% federally funded.	Same as traditional.

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Case Information

- Cases are randomly selected
- Types of Cases
  - Active case means an individual or family determined to be currently authorized as eligible for Medicaid by the agency
  - Negative case means an action that was taken to deny or otherwise dispose of a Medicaid application without a determination of eligibility or an action to deny, suspend, or terminate an individual or family

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MEQC Request from all Eligibility Sites

- Send application/RRR and all supporting documentation used to determine eligibility for the review period
  - **Initial request**: Ten working days
  - **Second request**: Five working days
  - **Third request**: Email to site director
- If the case cannot be located, a letter or email from the site director is required noting the inability to locate the case file

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What Happens after the Review?

- MEQC will give each eligibility site a report called an **Initial Finding Form** that lists the outcome for each case
- Two types of errors
  - Procedural: error in eligibility conditions which, if corrected, would not result in a difference in the amount of medical assistance paid
  - Eligibility: error exists when a beneficiary and/or case does not meet all elements of eligibility
- Errors are cited to the site, not the individual technician

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Response

- 100% response is required for **every** error
- Sites will have the following to respond
  - **Initial request**: Ten working days
  - **Second request**: Five working days
  - **Third request**: Email to site director
- If the site response is received after the due date, the error will stand as cited

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Site Process

- Eligibility sites can concur (agree), rebut (disagree), or ask for policy clarification for each error
  - **Concur**: a response is **still** required
    - Error(s) requested to be corrected, must be corrected
  - **Rebuttal:** send documentation to support the rebuttal or the error will stand as cited
  - **Policy clarification:** site must provide Federal or State regulations and/or applicable agency letters to be reconsidered (Note: Policy request should be made only if the interpretation of policy is in dispute)

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What's Next?

- MEQC has ten working days to respond to site rebuttals and ten working days to forward a policy clarification to the Eligibility unit at HCPF
  - Error will remain cited
  - Error can be reversed

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Reports

- MEQC will develop a final report with recommendations to CMS
  - A copy of the report will also be sent to the site director along with an Individual Site Report
- Eligibility sites must develop a corrective action plan based on the results reported on the Individual Site Report

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