

2017-18 Interim Issue Brief

Managed Care

Managed care is a way of delivering health care to manage cost, utilization, and quality. Reducing unnecessary health care costs can be pursued in a variety of ways, including economic incentives for physicians and patients to select less costly forms of care; reviewing the medical necessity of specific services; increased beneficiary cost sharing; controls on inpatient admissions and lengths of stay; cost-sharing incentives for outpatient surgery; selective contracting with health care providers; and rigorous management of high-cost health care cases.

Legislative Study of Managed Care

During the 2017-18 interim, the North Dakota Legislative Management will study options to operate the state Medicaid program and other related programs as managed care. The study must identify and review populations to consider for managed care, including individuals eligible under traditional medical assistance, Medicaid expansion, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and individuals receiving services through the long-term care and developmental disabilities programs.

The study must consider the needs of individuals receiving services from managed care programs in similar-sized states and the alignment of benefit packages as well as reviewing populations covered by the program of all-inclusive care for the elderly in other states. A proposed plan, cost estimates, and potential timeline for implementing the managed care options identified must also be studied. The interim committee must also consider whether to recommend distributing a request for information from managed care organizations regarding the managed care options identified.



During the 2017-18 interim, the Health Care Reform Review Committee will study options to operate the state Medicaid program and other related programs as managed care.

Managed Care Study Findings to Be Reported to Legislature.

The Medicaid managed care study has been assigned to the Health Care Reform Review Committee. The findings of the study, committee recommendations, and any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, will be reported to the sixty-sixth legislative assembly, which will convene in January 2019.

NDHA will monitor the managed care study and participate as requested by the Health Care Reform Review Committee.

NDHA Position

NDHA supports the study of managed care in the North Dakota Medicaid program.

NDHA will monitor the study, participate as requested, and report results to members.