

Preparing for the Medicare Drug Discount Card Rollout

Speaker Biographies

Nancy Atkins, MSN, RNC, NP

Commissioner

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

Bureau of Medical Services

West Virginia

Ms. Atkins was appointed Commissioner of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Medical Services, in May 2001. Before that, she was Director of Women's Ambulatory Services for the Charleston Area Medical Center. Ms. Atkins has served as faculty for the Marshall University School of Nursing and WVU School of Medicine. She has over 30 years of health care experience, beginning as a clinician and transitioning that background into administration.

Patricia Nemore

Attorney

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Patricia Nemore is an attorney with the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc., a non-profit education and advocacy organization that identifies and promotes solutions to ensure that elders and people with disabilities have access to Medicare and quality health care.

Ms. Nemore has been an advocate for older people and people with disabilities seeking health care for nearly thirty years. Her practice has focused on Medicare, Medicaid and long-term care, with special emphasis on issues of importance to those dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. She has engaged in individual advocacy, class action litigation and legislative and administrative advocacy at the national level. Before coming to the Center for Medicare Advocacy in January 2000, she spent twenty years at the National Senior Citizens Law Center, a legal services back-up center. She graduated from the Columbus School of Law of the Catholic University of America.

She has written two reports, both supported by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, on variations in state Medicaid buy-in practices for low-income Medicare beneficiaries and is currently involved in litigation to improve federal outreach policies and practices for Medicare Savings Programs.

Ginni Hain

Director
Division of Eligibility, Enrollment and Outreach
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Ginni Hain leads the Division within CMSO that focuses on the policy issues associated with Medicaid eligibility and enrollment for our aged, blind, and disabled beneficiaries. As such, much of this work impacts eligibility, enrollment and coordination of benefits policy and operations for the dually eligible. Because of this expertise with low-income and dually eligible beneficiaries, Ginni also simultaneously served as the Director for low income eligibility policy and state liaison issues for CMS's Medicare Approved Discount Drug Card Implementation Team. Ginni's hooked on Medicaid (never a dull moment) having served in CMSO (and it's predecessor, the Medicaid Bureau) for 20 years, spending 17 years of those as the senior special assistant to the Director of CMSO and the Medicaid Bureau.

Kathryn Kotula

Director of Health Policy
Policy and Government Affairs
APHSA/NASMD

Kathryn Kotula is Director of the Health Policy Unit. Prior to joining APHSA, Kotula was the Director of Policy and Research for Virginia's Medicaid Program. She directed the analysis, development, and implementation of all Medicaid policies including managed care, pharmacy, mental health, substance abuse, and maternal and child health. She directed the analysis of state and federal legislation affecting Medicaid and Medicare and monitored state legislation affecting Medicaid policies. She served as the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Project Director and worked on developing a Medicaid Buy-In program for working people with disabilities. Kotula served as the Director of the State Children's Health Insurance Program and directed the development and implementation of Virginia's SCHIP program.

Barbara Lyons, PhD

Deputy Director
Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured

Barbara Lyons is a Vice President of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and Deputy Director of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. A major initiative of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured serves as a policy institute and forum for analyzing health care coverage and access for the low-income population and assessing options for reform. The Commission

strives to bring increased public awareness and expanded analytic effort to the policy debate on health coverage and access for low-income and vulnerable populations.

Dr. Lyons concentrates on issues related to health care coverage, access to care, managed care, and health care financing for Medicaid and low-income populations. She has published numerous articles on health and long-term care financing for the poor and elderly population. Prior to her position with the Kaiser Commission, Dr. Lyons served on the policy staff of the Commonwealth Fund Commission on Elderly People Living Alone where she specialized in economic, health coverage and financing issues facing elderly people. She also held a Research Associate faculty appointment at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Dr. Lyons received her doctoral degree from the Johns Hopkins University, School of Public Health. She also holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree in Health Finance and Management from the Johns Hopkins University.

Deirdre Duzor

Co-Leader
Medicaid Pharmacy Team
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Baltimore, Maryland

Deirdre Duzor is Co-Leader of the Medicaid Pharmacy Team, which is responsible for Medicaid policy concerning pharmaceutical coverage, drug payment, and manufacturer rebates. The team also is responsible for the Pharmacy Plus demonstration program and recently assumed responsibilities for the coordination of the state pharmacy assistance programs and the Medicare drug card. Ms. Duzor has been with CMS for 13 years, holding policy positions in the Medicaid and Medicare programs. Prior to coming to CMS, she worked in the Office of the Secretary of HHS and Social Security Administration on income assistance programs.

Larry Reed

Co-Leader
Medicaid Pharmacy Team
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Baltimore, Maryland

Larry Reed is the other Co-Leader of the Medicaid Pharmacy Team. Mr. Reed has been with CMS for 26 years, working on prescription drug issues since the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988.

Andy Schneider

Principal

Medicaid Policy LLC

Andy Schneider is the founding Principal of Medicaid Policy, LLC, a consulting firm located in Washington, D.C., whose clients include states, providers, and the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Andy has 30 years of experience with the Medicaid program, over half of which were spent as counsel to the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, then chaired by Representative Henry Waxman (D-CA). He is also an Adjunct Professor at the George Washington University's Department of Health Policy.