Medical Transportation: Today

Overview of Medical Transportation Today and the Important Role played by Medicaid

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Medical Transportation

Transportation To and From a Medical Facility or Provider
Components

- Non Emergency Medical Transportation - Overview
- Medicaid
- Public Transportation – Answer to Medicaid Transportation?
- Current Means of Addressing Medicaid Transportation
Non Emergency Medical Transportation

Overview

- Class
- Types
- Means
- Modes
- Limiting Factors
Class

Invisible

Performed Independently
Part of the General Public Ridership

Visible

Funded through one of 11 Federal fund streams;
62 agencies

Medicaid; Aging; Medicare
Types

• General
• Disease Specific
  - Kidney Dialysis
  - HIV
  - Cancer
• Age Specific
  - Medicare
• Economic
  - Medicaid
• Health Related
  - Physical
  - Behavioral
  - Mental
• Under the Radar of Any Specific Funding
Means

- **Private Automobile**
  - Yours, Paid, or Volunteer
- **Public Fixed Route Transit**
- **Public Paratransit**
  - ADA or Specialized
- **Private Paratransit**
  - Community based fee or no fee
  - Taxi
- **Public Ambulance**
  - Community based fee or no fee
- **Private Ambulance**
Modes

- **AMBULANCE**
- **STRETCHER**
- **NON AMBULATORY**
- **AMBULATORY**
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**
  - TAXI
Limiting Factors

• Degree of Assistance Required
  • Door to Door vs. Curb to Curb
  • Escorts
    – Attendants
• Mobility Limitations
• Shedding
Medicaid

- Program
- Transportation
- Deficit Reduction Act of 2005
- Challenges
Transportation: Definition

**Medical Transportation**

- Transportation to any Medical Assistance reimbursable service for the purpose of receiving treatment, medical evaluations or purchasing prescription drugs or medical equipment.
Transportation: Assurance and Elements

42 CFR Section 431.53

- “Assurance of Transportation” means:
  - “A state plan must specify that the Medicaid agency will ensure necessary transportation for recipients to and from providers; and describe the methods that the agency will use to meet this requirement.”

- “Transportation” includes:
  - Expenses for transportation and other related travel costs determined to be necessary by the Medicaid agency to secure medical examinations and treatment for a recipient.
Title XIX of the Social Security Act

- Federal / State matching program
  - Nationally, 14% of the population receives Medicaid assistance
  - Medicaid services are provided annually to more than 38.5 million people at a cost of nearly $179 billion
Annually, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) provides more than 111 million trips at a cost of nearly $1.8 billion, for an average cost of $16 per trip.

- 10% of Medicaid-eligible population uses NEMT services.
- By 2010, Medicaid NEMT expenditures are projected to double.
Deficit Reduction Act of 2005

- Signed by President Bush February 8, 2006
- States no longer required to obtain a Section 1915 (b) Waiver
  - Can provide NEMT through a contracted broker
  - Must select brokers through a competitive procurement process
  - States must submit a State Plan Amendment
Challenges

State based
(50 Different Programs)

Funding-reality of state budget pressures

Eligibility Varies
Public Transportation – Answer to Medicaid Transportation?

- Coordination of existing programs critical
- SAFETEA – LU encourages
- United We Ride
Coordination of Existing Programs Critical

Confusing Array of Programs & Funding
SAFETEA-LU Encourages
Coordinated Planning – Locally Developed
Self Assessment Tool

Questions to Ask:

- Is there a mechanism for coordinating funding for cost-effective service delivery?
- Are local funding allocations based on demonstrated evidence of coordinated activities?
- Are there consistent cost reporting procedures across programs and agencies? Are human service transportation expenditures isolated from other program expenditures and easily identified?
- Is there a method for defining allocated transportation costs across programs and agencies?
SAFETEA-LU 

- **Promotes** a seamless transportation system in which transportation modes are efficiently connected;
- **Continues** a major emphasis on improving public transportation
- **Encourages** private sector participation
- **Expands** the sources of funds for the non-federal match to include amounts a grantee receives under a service agreement with a social service agency
Current Means of Addressing Medicaid Transportation

- **Regions 3 (Mid Atlantic) and 8 (Upper Midwest; West)** – *Twelve States*
  - *Five* no coordination with PT; no brokerage
  - *One* limited coordination with PT; no brokerage
  - *Two* totally separate statewide system; statewide brokerage
  - *One* totally separate statewide system; no brokerage
  - *Three* local coordination; local or regional brokerage

- **Fully coordinated statewide Medicaid integrated with PT**
  - *Florida*

- **Emerging coordination of Medicaid with PT**
  - *Texas*
Today

NMET a Major Opportunity