



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

May 25, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Maryland Medical Assistance Program contracts with managed care organizations (MCOs) for its HealthChoice Program. HealthChoice is a mandatory managed care program that provides health care to most Medicaid participants in the State. Eligible Medicaid participants enroll in an MCO of their choice and obtain services from the network of providers under contract with the MCO. MCOs are responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of the full range of health care services. The Maryland Medical Assistance Program has contracts and regulations that, along with federal requirements, apply to the MCOs to hold them accountable to the HealthChoice requirements. As a general matter, these contracts and regulations do not apply directly to the MCO's relationship with the providers in its network.

On occasion, a dispute may arise between an MCO and a provider in its network. Neither the Maryland Medical Assistance Program nor the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has an administrative process for adjudicating such disputes. Such disputes may include, for example, issues related to the MCO's timing of payments and implicate an MCO's obligations under Insurance Article §15-1005. The Department has no authority to enforce § 15-1005 of the Insurance Article against MCOs. Enforcement of § 15-1005 of the Insurance Administration lies with the Insurance Commissioner

Sincerely,

Jill Spector

Director, HealthChoice and Acute Care Administration

cc: David Lapp, AAG
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