



Medi-Cal Redesign

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California



Medi-Cal – Entitlement Program

- Federal-state health insurance program for low-income individuals.
- Plays a major role in reducing the number of uninsured.
- Nearly 1 out of 5 Californians enrolled in Medi-Cal.
- Insures about 1 out of 4 children.
- Federal government matches every dollar the state spends on Medi-Cal.
- Almost half (47%) of the Medi-Cal beneficiaries is Latino.



Medi-Cal Reform Proposal

- Proposed Restructuring and Reform of Medi-Cal:
 - Managed Care Expansion to all Medi-Cal Beneficiaries
 - Changing the Refinancing of Ca's Safety Net Hospitals
 - Impose Premiums to Certain Beneficiaries
 - Dental Cap for Adults
 - Single Point of Entry for Children



Governor's Reform Principles

- Maintain essential services to those most in need,
- Recognize children as a priority investment,
- Promote personal responsibility,
- Better align services and benefits with those of other large states, and
- Support structural reform of major programs



Premiums

- 460,000 families and children in households with incomes above 100% of FPL (\$1,306 for a family of three), and
- 90,000 seniors and persons with disabilities with incomes above the SSI/SSP level (\$812 for an individual and \$1,437 for a couple).
- Premiums will be \$4 per month for each child under the age of 21 and \$10 per month for adults with the maximum of \$27 per month per family.



Impact on Latinos

- Research has shown that 200% of the FPL is NOT sufficient to meet basic necessities.
- Families with children enrolled in HFP have difficulties paying premiums.
- Premiums used to control costs and utilization.
- Uninsured rate will increase, higher costs will result in other program services, and everyone's health will be impacted.



Dental Cap for Adults

- \$1,000 dental cap only for Medi-Cal Adults
- It is estimated that 3 million adult beneficiaries will be affected and approximately 124,000 individuals a year.



Impact on Latinos

- Oral health is critical to overall health since untreated dental disease causes other health problems.
- Low-income Latino households are four times more likely to have severely decayed teeth than non-Latino whites.
- Limiting dental benefits will make an existing epidemic still more dramatic.



Action to Take!

- Urge Governor Schwarzenegger to rescind on his premium and dental cap proposals.
- Urge your representative and local elected officials to oppose premiums and dental caps.
- Urge your Board of Supervisors to sign a resolution opposing premiums and dental caps.
- Identify families who can provide personal stories.



For More Information

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