

# 2019 Advocacy & Policy Update

Presented By:

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# Presentation Overview

- ✓ State Budget: What's In It
- ✓ State Budget: What's **Not** In It
- ✓ Scope of Practice
- ✓ General Policy Updates
- ✓ Pain Management

# FY 2020-2021 State Operating Budget

# What's In The Budget

- **Telemedicine – Telehealth**
- The budget contains provisions which require insurance coverage of telemedicine services to be on par with services performed in-office
- This passage aligns Ohio with 35 other states in the U.S. which have already passed and enacted state laws guaranteeing telehealth parity
- Applies primarily to private insurance as state Medicaid had already allowed for Telemedicine services

# What's In The Budget

- **Price Benefits Managers (PBMs)**
- When filling a prescription, if a pharmacist has information indicating that the cost-sharing amount required by the patient's health benefit plan exceeds the amount that may otherwise be charged for the same drug, the pharmacist must inform the patient and not charge the higher amount

# What's In The Budget

- **Continuing Medical Education (CME)**
- Physicians & podiatrists: Reduced hours of CME required every two years for license renewal (from 100 to 50). Also applies to the 3-year renewal period of clinical research faculty physicians
- Also limits the number of hours of CME a physician or podiatrist may earn through provision of health care services as a volunteer to 3 hours

# What's In The Budget

- **CME, continued. . .**
- Physician assistants: eliminates the 100-hr continuing education requirement for two-year license renewal. Instead requires completion of continuing education for maintaining certification from the National Commission on Certification of Physical Assistants
- 12-hour advanced pharmacology requirement for physician assistants present in current law remains in effect

# What's In The Budget

- **Other Items Worth Mentioning**
- Legal Age to Purchase Tobacco Raised from 18 to 21
- Small Business Tax – 4% state income tax cut
- Physician Loan Repayment Program for substance use disorder treatment providers and physicians providing medication-assisted treatment in a HRSA



# What's NOT In The Budget

- **Surprise Billing**
- Language was inserted into the budget regarding prohibition of “surprise” out-of-network billing of patients for medical care
- Despite pushback from physician groups, the finalized version of the bill contained problematic provisions regarding reimbursement for out-of-network providers at an in-network facility
- Governor vetoed these items

# What's NOT In The Budget

- **Price Transparency**
- The governor vetoed provisions in the budget which would have placed duplicative and burdensome regulations on health care providers in order to attempt to give consumers price information before medical care
- Despite the veto, the governor and the OSMA supports finding workable transparency rules
- 2017 law has never taken effect

# Scope Of Practice Issues

# Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs)

- HB 224 would make unclear and undefined expansions to the scope of practice of CRNAs
- Previous efforts would have allowed CRNAs to administer anesthesia and prescribe opioids w/out physician oversight
- Companion bill introduced in Senate: SB 61

# Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)

- HB 177 would eliminate standard care arrangements to allow APRNs to practice unsupervised, dismantling the team-based approach to care

# General Policy Updates

# Medicaid Managed Care Plans

- Governor has announced that Ohio will re-choose the insurance companies providing Medicaid coverage
- Currently five insurance companies in place since 2011 covering 2.8 million Ohioans
- Department of Medicaid accepting feedback on the program until Tuesday, July 30

# Prior Authorization

- Web-Based to Accept PR Requests
- 10-Day Turnaround for Decisions
- 2-Day Turnaround for Urgent Decisions
- Electronic Receipts, Denial Explanations
- No Retro-active Denials



# Pain Management

# Medical Marijuana

- By the Numbers (as of June 30,2019):
  - 48,248 registered patients
  - 25,963 patients who have purchased
  - 527 physicians with certificate to recommend
  - 1,853 lbs. of marijuana sold
  - 32,528 units of product
  - \$15.5 million in product sales for state
  - 23 dispensaries



# Qualifying Conditions

- AIDS
- ALS
- Alzheimer's disease
- Cancer
- Chronic traumatic encephalopathy
- Crohn's disease
- Epilepsy or another seizure disorder
- Fibromyalgia
- Glaucoma
- Hepatitis C
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Multiple sclerosis
- Pain that is either chronic and severe or intractable
- Parkinson's disease
- Positive status for HIV
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Sickle cell anemia
- Spinal cord disease or injury
- Tourette's syndrome
- Traumatic brain injury
- Ulcerative colitis

# Ohio Pain Management Toolkit

- Ohio Pain Management Toolkit launched in June 2019
- 10 strategies for effective opioid prescribing and patient pain management
- Toolkit commissioned by the Ohio Department of Health and created, in part, by the OSMA
- Smart Rx still available at [www.osma.org](http://www.osma.org)



# Questions?

drug pricing tort reform  
public health  
tobacco cessation  
scope of practice drug abuse  
Medicaid price transparency step therapy  
state budget prior authorization telehealth  
certification medical marijuana health insurance  
truth in ads prescribing rules One-Bite  
access to care ACA  
compounding



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