



Shancie Jenkins, Chief
Office of Health Improvement and Wellness

Sunset Review Committee
Children with Medical Handicaps Medical Advisory Committee

February 23, 2016

Chairman Jordan and members of the Sunset Review Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Children with Medical Handicaps Medical Advisory Committee and the Infant Hearing Screening Subcommittee. My name is Shancie Jenkins, and I am the Chief of the Office of Health Improvement and Wellness at the Ohio Department of Health.

Medical Advisory Council

The Medical Advisory Committee is charged with advising on issues such as medical practice, medical eligibility, program rules and standards of care. Members may also be consulted regarding eligibility of provider applicants, scope of provider practice and services, authorization of out-of-state provider care, medical eligibility of particular conditions, eligibility of specific services for the diagnostic and treatment programs, the development of medical policies, and the establishment of standards of practice.

The council consists of 21 members appointed by the Director of Health. All members of the council shall be licensed physicians, surgeons, dentists, and other health professionals. Members receive no compensation but may receive travel expenses. The council meets at least annually and last met in April 2015.

Infant Hearing Screening Subcommittee

The Infant Hearing Subcommittee, a subcommittee of the council, advises and makes recommendations for a statewide hearing screening, tracking, and early intervention program to identify newborn and infant hearing impairment. This includes making recommendations regarding methods and techniques, procedures, and maintenance of a register of newborns and infants who do not pass the hearing screening.

The subcommittee consists of 28 current members representing various medical subspecialties; audiology; parents of children who are hearing impaired; adults with hearing impairment; epidemiology; neonatal nursing; teacher of the deaf; Medicaid; the Ohio Hospital Association; the Ohio School for the Deaf; the Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology Board; and ODH maternal and child health programs. This subcommittee meets 3-4 times per year. The broad-based group provides feedback and recommendations to ODH on Ohio's early hearing detection and intervention

program. Members participate in quality improvement processes, participate in testing changes, and presenting data and information on best and emerging practices. The subcommittee last met in person in August 2015. They had a conference call with newly elected subcommittee co-chairs in November 2015. The next scheduled in person meeting is April 2016.

ODH requests to reauthorize this council, and its subcommittee, because we are currently engaged in discussions with the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (JMOC) regarding multiple payer programs at the Ohio Department of Health, including the Children with Medical Handicaps Program. JMOC is reviewing these programs in response to increased coverage available to Ohioans through the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion. Other current subcommittees include the Parent Advisory Committee, Young Adult Advisory Committee, and Futures Committee. ODH prefers to continue those conversations related to the Children with Medical Handicaps Program in that venue rather than developing recommendations in another setting.

Thank you for your consideration, and I am available to answer any questions you may have at this time.