Pediatric Immunization Program Assessment

Massachusetts Public Health Council
July 10, 2013

Kevin Cranston, MDiv
Director
Bureau of Infectious Disease
Pediatric Immunization Program Assessment

- The Pediatric Immunization Program Assessment (PIPA) has been in existence for three years
- The assessment is a surcharge on certain payments made to Massachusetts acute hospital and ambulatory surgical centers
- The surcharge funds Line Item 4580-1000 which totals over $50 million in the current fiscal year
- The Line item funds the Pediatric Immunization Program operated by the DPH Bureau of Infectious Disease
- The line items pays for the distribution of over 1.1 million doses of vaccine to pediatric provider sites across the Commonwealth
- Historically, the assessment was implemented by the Department of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCFP) and the line item was managed by DPH
Transfer to DPH

- Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012 eliminated the existence of DHCFP and created a new entity, the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA)
- CHIA is an independent state agency that has taken over the majority of DHCFP responsibilities
- Officials within CHIA and DPH together determined that it would be best for DPH to administer the assessment for its own immunization program
- DPH Accounting Office will implement a collection and monitoring system for the assessment in the form of check registers and a lock box in conjunction with the State Comptroller’s Office
Regulatory Changes

- Regulatory changes are requested to transfer the collection of the assessment.
- New regulations are very similar to the DHCFP regulations at 114.5 CMR 20.00, which are now obsolete.
- Regulations will be located in 105 CMR 223.000: PEDIATRIC IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM ASSESSMENT.
- Minor changes are suggested in order to advance the ability of DPH to collect and monitor the assessment using procedures and systems appropriate to DPH.
- Surcharge payers, as defined in the regulation, will continue to make payments as they have for the last three years; this regulation does not impose any new requirements on payers.
- DPH is coordinating development of the regulations with CHIA to maintain an uninterrupted system for surcharge payers.
Next Steps

- Plan to hold a public hearing in August
- Present summarized public comments back to the Public Health Council in September