

preauthorize costly or abused services; and investigates and refers fraudulent activities for prosecution. By recovering reimbursements from all liable third parties, the Administration also ensures that Medicaid is the payor of last resort.

The Administration is organized into three Divisions: Utilization and Eligibility Review, Health Services Review, and Medical Assistance Recoveries.

MEDICAL CARE OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

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The Medical Care Operations Administration develops and maintains systems for prompt and accurate reimbursement of claims submitted by providers of health care services. It maintains files of approved providers of services and of Maryland residents certified as eligible to receive services through the Medical Assistance Program. The Administration also manages the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program. This State-funded program helps pay for prescriptions, insulin, and certain medical supplies for low-income families and individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid.

The Administration consists of four Divisions: Systems and Support Services, Invoice Processing, Programs and Liaison, and Medicaid Information Systems.

HEALTH SYSTEMS FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

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Formerly the Policy Administration, the Health Systems Financing Administration was created by the Department in 1987. The Administration reviews and develops Medicaid policies and regulations that establish eligibility criteria, define services, detail coverage, specify limitations, and determine reimbursement rates. In addition, it maintains an up-to-date State Plan and obtains federal approval for Program changes to assure the continued availability of federal matching funds.

The Administration works through four Divisions: Long Term Care, Acute Care, Eligibility Services, and Specialized Health Services.

LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION ADMINISTRATION

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The Division of Licensing and Certification was reorganized in 1986 as the Office of Licensing and Certification Programs. In 1987, the Office was reformed as the Licensing and Certification Administration.

The Administration licenses all hospitals and health-related institutions in Maryland. The Administration also is responsible for certification recommendations for all facilities participating in the Medicaid and Medicare Programs. It inspects facilities and provides consultation and education for all health facility staffs. The Administration initiates administrative action against those facilities not in compliance with State rules and regulations.

The Administration consists of three Divisions: Survey Services, Long Term Care, and Utilization Review.

Division of Survey Services

Vacancy, *Chief*

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The Division of Survey Services regulates health maintenance organizations, home health agencies, and State hospitals and correctional institutions. The Division also surveys federal programs for compliance with Medicare regulations. These programs cover end-stage renal dialysis, independent and outpatient physical therapists, comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facilities, ambulatory surgical centers, rural health clinics, and portable x-ray units.

Under the Division is the Complaint and Quality Assurance Unit. The Unit investigates all complaints about any health-related facility. The Unit also monitors the quality of nursing, sanitation and dietary services covered by the Divisions of Survey Services, Long Term Care, Utilization Review, and Drug Control.