

Health Care Policy, Finance, and Regulation oversees the principal health regulatory functions of the Department and provides leadership and guidance for the Department's financing, regulatory and licensing programs. This entails oversight of regulatory functions of the State Health Services Cost Review Commission, the State Health Resources Planning Commission, and the Maryland Health Care Access and Cost Commission; compliance with regulations and standards of the Medical Care Finance and Compliance Administration and the Licensing and Certification Administration; payments for services through the Program Systems and Operations Administration; and financing and policy of the Medical Care Policy Administration.

With the assistance of the Policy and Health Statistics Administration, the Deputy Secretary develops recommendations for the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to modify and shape the role of the Department. The Deputy Secretary helps define health problems, evaluates Department programs, and develops data on federal and other external trends so as to advise the Secretary on program emphasis and Department direction.

The Deputy Secretary plans, directs, and evaluates the *Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)*. The Medical Assistance Program provides access to health care for categorically and medically needy residents throughout Maryland. Health care includes hospital inpatient and outpatient services, laboratory and X-ray services, nursing facility services, physician services, and home health care. Additional health care is available as indicated in the Medical Assistance State Plan. The Program is implemented by the Medical Care Finance and Compliance Administration, the Program Systems and Operations Administration, and the Medical Care Policy Administration.

Health care expenses of the Medical Assistance Program are federally matched on a 50/50 basis for approximately 90 percent of the recipients. For the remaining 10 percent, services are funded totally by State and local funds (Code Health—General Article, secs. 15-101 through 15-128).

Under the Deputy Secretary are three administrations: Medical Care Finance and Compliance; Medical Care Policy; and Program Systems and Operations.

MEDICAL CARE FINANCE & COMPLIANCE ADMINISTRATION

Lawrence P. Triplett, *Director*
 Kenneth S. Smoot, *Deputy Director*
 Diane C. Herr, *Deputy Director*

201 West Preston St., Room 200
 Baltimore, MD 21201—2399 (410) 767-5204

The Medical Care Finance and Compliance Administration began in 1975 as the Medical Care

Compliance Administration. In November 1993, the Administration merged with the Office of Administration and Finance to form the Medical Care Finance and Compliance Administration. By developing and implementing procedures to monitor and control the delivery of health care services, the Administration assures that benefits of the Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid) are used effectively. The Administration designs computer applications to detect aberrant practices; administers systems to require preauthorization for certain services; and investigates and refers fraud for prosecution. By recovering reimbursements from all liable third parties, the Administration also ensures that Medicaid is the payor of last resort.

The Administration has nine divisions: Acute Care Services; Adjunct Services; Administrative Services; Audit; Budget; Long-Term Care; Medical Assistance Recoveries; Provider Reimbursement; and Utilization and Eligibility Review.

DIVISION OF ACUTE CARE SERVICES

Stanley H. Freedman, *Chief*
 (410) 767-1722

Established in 1987, the Division of Acute Care Services reviews and monitors the use of acute care services provided by general and special hospitals, physicians, and clinics reimbursed by the Medical Assistance Program.

DIVISION OF ADJUNCT SERVICES

Janet G. Freeze, *Acting Chief*
 (410) 767-1743

The Division of Adjunct Services was organized in 1976. The Division controls and monitors services provided to recipients of the Medical Assistance Program and the Pharmacy Assistance Program. These services cover ambulance and wheelchair vans; dental care; durable medical equipment and disposable supplies; hearing aids; laboratory; oxygen; pharmacy; physical therapy; podiatry; and vision care. The Division also contracts with the Maryland Pharmacists Association and the Center on Drugs and Public Policy of the University of Maryland System to review drug use.

The Division develops and implements policies, guidelines, standards, and procedures to assure that providers of health care services comply with federal and State laws, regulations, plans, and policies. For the Medical Assistance Program, the Division monitors and evaluates services and the degree to which they are used; and designs, develops, and implements standards and mechanisms for detecting fraud or misuse of the Program. Generally, providers who misuse the Program are required to reimburse funds. Cases of suspected fraud are referred to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Office of the Attorney General.