

(15) Develop joint legislative and executive branch strategies to persuade the federal government to reconsider those policies that discourage the delivery of cost effective health care to Program recipients;

(16) Evaluate Departmental recommendations as to those persons whose financial need or health care needs are most acute; [and]

(17) Establish mechanisms for aggressively pursuing recoveries against third parties permitted under current law and exploring additional methods for seeking to recover other moneys expended by the Program; AND

(18) TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO ASSURE THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDED BY MANAGED CARE PLANS.

15-103.

(a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

(2) The Program:

(i) [Shall] SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET AND THE AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL FUNDS, SHALL provide comprehensive medical and other health care for ~~indigent individuals or medically indigent~~ individuals ~~WHO ARE CATEGORICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS UNDER FEDERAL LAW~~ for both;

(ii) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget and the availability of federal funds, comprehensive medical and other health care for all pregnant women and, at a minimum, all children currently under the age of 1 whose family income falls below 185 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by the federal law;

(iii) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget, family planning service to women currently eligible for comprehensive medical care and other health care under item (ii) of this paragraph for 5 years after the second month following the month in which the woman delivers her child [.] ;

(iv) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget and the availability of federal funds, comprehensive medical and other health care for all children from the age of 1 year up through and including the age of 5 years whose family income falls below 133 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by the federal law;

(v) Shall provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget and the availability of federal funds, comprehensive medical care and other health care for all children born after September 30, 1983 who are at least 6 years of age but are under 19 years of age whose family income falls below 100 percent of the poverty level, as permitted by federal law; ~~and~~

(vi) May include bedside nursing care for eligible Program recipients;

AND