



ABH May Committee Meetings

Friday, May 8
Billing, 10 a.m.

Friday, May 12
**Corporate
Compliance, 10 a.m.**
Children's Services,
10 a.m.

Tuesday, May 16
OTP, 9:30 a.m.
ACCS, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 17
**Quality &
Outcomes**, 10 a.m.

Thursday, May 18
RRS TSS, 10 a.m.

Friday, May 19
MID DUIL SOA,
10 a.m.

Tuesday, May 23
PDT PHP, 10 a.m.
DEI&J, 12 p.m.

Friday, May 26
CBHI, 10 a.m.

To learn more about
ABH's Committees, click
[here](#).

Keeping Coverage

MassHealth ACOs are integrated networks of physicians, hospitals, and other community-based healthcare providers that are accountable for the quality, cost, and member experience of care for 1.2 million MassHealth members.

MassHealth selected 17 healthcare organizations to participate in the re-procured MassHealth ACO program. The new health plans will launch on April 1, 2023.

In February, members were mailed notices providing MassHealth health plan enrollment updates. Members generally follow their Primary Care Providers (PCP) with the PCP's ACO. If a member's PCP assignment is not available in MassHealth systems, the member will move with their ACO partner.

MassHealth Choices, MassHealth has a member-facing website called MassHealth Choices to assist members and applicants choose a health plan. The site has been updated with the new plan options.

MassHealth Enrollment Guide, The [MassHealth Enrollment Guide](#), also accessible through MassHealth Choices website, is an excellent resource for members and providers alike. It includes information on plans, services areas and behavioral health benefit access.

Resources, March 16th MassHealth BH Webinar Presentation. On March 16th, MassHealth held a webinar for BH providers on the ACO Program relaunch. The webinar presentation is [here](#).

ABH Crosswalk. ABH has developed a crosswalk of current ACOs to new ACOs. That crosswalk is available [here](#).

ABH Overview Presentation. ABH has developed a high-level overview of ACO Program Relaunch. That deck is available [here](#).



Save the Date! ABH Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Beechwood Hotel, Worcester

Check-in opens at 11:30 a.m. The event begins at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be served.

Every May, ABH holds its Annual Meeting to bring together the entire ABH membership for an opportunity to network, conduct association business, and hear from ABH and policymakers or thought leaders. ABH is extremely excited to announce that this year, we will be returning to an in-person Annual Meeting.

This year's Annual Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, May 9th from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the [Beechwood Hotel, Worcester](#).

Registration: Registration and payment details will be made available soon!

Introducing our Keynote: We are very excited to announce EOHHS Secretary Kate Walsh as this year's Annual Meeting speaker! As Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kate Walsh leads the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), which provides access to medical and behavioral health care, long-term services and supports, and key nutritional and financial benefits. She represents a team of more than 21,000 staff across 11 agencies and the MassHealth system, who work daily to provide services and programs for nearly 1 in every 3 Massachusetts residents.



Prior to her appointment to Governor Healey's cabinet, Secretary Walsh served as CEO of the Boston Medical Center (BMC) health system for 13 years, overseeing an annual operating revenue of \$6 billion. The BMC health system is comprised of a 514 bed, academic medical center that is the primary teaching affiliate of Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, as well as WellSense Health Plan, a Medicaid Managed Care Organization, and Boston HealthNet, a network affiliation of 14 community health centers.

Secretary Walsh received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Health degrees from Yale University. She has served as a member of the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, the Boston Public Health Commission, the Massachusetts Hospital Association, the Association of American Medical Colleges, Pine Street Inn, and Yale University.

Building a Better Workforce

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission recently hosted *Building a Robust Health Care Workforce in Massachusetts: Findings, Challenges, and Opportunities* to focus on the critical challenges facing the health care workforce in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. ABH President and CEO Lydia Conley participated on a panel on the workforce challenges facing Mass Health Care Providers. Event materials are linked below:

- [Presentation - Workforce Event - March 29, 2023](#)
- [Executive Summary: Health Care Workforce Trends and Challenges in the Era of COVID-19](#)
- [Chartpack: Health Care Workforce Trends and Challenges in the Era of COVID-19](#)

Naloxone

The CDC breaks down everything you need to know here:

https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdoses/naloxone/index.html?s_cid=DROP_Naloxone_Search_Paid_001

List of Contracted BHCA Providers

The Division of Insurance (DOI) and Department of Mental Health previously issued Bulletin 2018-07 to clarify that insured health plans must include specific benefits for Behavioral Health for Children and Adolescents (BHCA). These benefits include: Intensive Care Coordination; Family Support and Training; In-home Behavioral Services; In-home Therapy; Therapeutic Mentoring; Community-based Acute Treatment for Children and Adolescents (CBAT); and Intensive Community-based Acute Treatment for Children and Adolescents (ICBAT).

DOI has provided lists of contracted BHCA providers by insurance carrier that can now be found on ABH's member page: <https://abh.memberclicks.net/child-and-adolescent-commercial-behavioral-health>.

Accommodations and Language Updates in POSC

MassHealth has upgraded the online provider directories to include information about accessibility and language accommodations available at a provider's service location. Many individuals with disabilities experience barriers to health care and MassHealth is working towards providing the residents of the Commonwealth with easy to access information that will allow them to make informed decisions on where they may receive their care. The MassHealth Business Support Services (BSS) Provider Relations team will be hosting information and training sessions to show you how to update both accessibility and language accommodations using the provider file update functions in POSC.

You will learn:

- How to update accessibility accommodations
- How to update language accommodations
- How this information will be used to inform members
- The importance of maintaining accurate information

The webinar sessions will be held on: **Thursday, April 20th, 2023, 10 a.m.** Please register for the webinar by visiting this link:

https://maximus.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UGGwVZgiSke0SYUdNPJZzg. If you have questions, please contact PR@maximus.com.

A Peek in the Personnel File

Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh announced Dr. Kiame Mahaniah will join EOHHS as Undersecretary for Health and Mary McGeown will join as Undersecretary for Human Services. We are very excited that current board member Mary McGeown will be joining Secretary Walsh's team. Mary is the current Executive Director of MSPCC.

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Register Now! NatCon23

Don't miss your chance to register for the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's annual conference, [NatCon23](#)! NatCon23 will take place from May 1-3, 2023 at the Los Angeles



Convention Center, Los Angeles, California. NatCon23 is the largest conference in mental health and substance use treatment. More than just an event, NatCon23 is an invitation to further invest in yourself and your organization, while learning alongside 5,000+ health care colleagues from across the country.

This conference features three days of leadership-building, organization-boosting learning from the best minds in health care. Here's a glimpse:

- Hear from [280+ sought-after speakers](#) from all facets of health care.
- Enjoy [hundreds of hours](#) of evidence-based, industry-leading content.
- Discover new ways to [boost your operations](#), impact and bottom line.
- Participate in “deep dive” discussions about the future of our field.
- Earn new [CE and CME credits](#) throughout the conference.
- Celebrate health care heroes during an awards program.

Additional information can be found on the NatCon23 overview page [here](#). We encourage you to share this opportunity with your staff, so they can [join us in Los Angeles](#) for three days of nonstop learning, networking and entertainment.

Click [here](#) to register, and get ready to explore the future of our field, build new relationships, fulfill your licensing requirements and learn from the best minds in health care – only at NatCon23!

Interesting Reads

- [New rules and blue envelopes: What MassHealth members need to know to keep their coverage.](#) *WBUR.*
- [Proposed settlement could bring big changes to Mass. family shelter system.](#) *WBUR.*
- [Health Providers Scramble to Keep Remaining Staff Amid Medicaid Rate Debate.](#) *Kaiser Health News.*
- [Fresh Produce Is an Increasingly Popular Prescription for Chronically Ill Patients.](#) *Kaiser Health News.*
- [What to know about xylazine, the drug authorities are calling a public safety threat.](#) *NPR.*
- ['Back to one meal a day': SNAP benefits drop as food prices climb.](#) *NPR.*
- [Our mental health care worker shortage is taking a toll.](#) *CommonWealth Magazine.*
- [Hospitals Are Increasingly Crowded With Kids Who Tried to Harm Themselves, Study Finds.](#) *The New York Times.*