

Access to Durable Medical Equipment (DME): Issues for Children with Special Health Care Needs

1:00-1:10 p.m.	Welcome & Introductions of New Leadership Roles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Stephanie Calves, Project Director, MA Consortium for CSHCN</i> ▪ <i>Meg Comeau, Chair, Steering Committee of the MA Consortium for CSHCN</i> 	<i>Susan Epstein, Executive Director, New England SERVE</i>
1:10-1:25 p.m. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Education</div>	<p>Family Well-Being in Massachusetts: State Analysis of the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs</p> <p>This presentation addresses how Massachusetts families with CSHCN answered the national survey questions, especially with respect to their unmet needs.</p>	<i>Karen Kuhlthau, PhD & Kristen Smith Hill, MPH</i> <i>Center for Child & Adolescent Health Policy, Mass General Hospital for Children</i>
1:25-1:45 p.m. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Information</div>	Update from the Consortium's Regional Affiliates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Western MA Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs (WMC) ▪ Central MA Partnership for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CMP) 	<i>Matt Sadof, MD, WMC Physician Co-Chair</i> <i>Barbara Donati, CMP Parent CO-Chair</i>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Education</div>	Durable Medical Equipment: Issues for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) <p style="margin-top: 10px;"><i>Part I: Panel Presentation</i></p>	<i>Stephanie Calves, Moderator</i>
1:45-2:00 p.m.	DME Industry Basics What is DME? How does it differ from other medical equipment, devices and supplies? What are the dynamics of the industry?	<i>Kenneth MacDonald, DME Coordinator with Boston's Community Medical Group (BCMG), a practice established to focus exclusively on the care of people with severe physical disabilities.</i>
2:00-2:15 p.m.	DME Financing Through Public Health Plans What is the process for obtaining DME through MassHealth? What are the financing mechanisms? What are the basic criteria used to determine eligibility for coverage?	<i>Lois Aldrich, MassHealth Office of Long Term Care, Director of Community Services</i> <i>Lynda Scully, MassHealth Office of Long Term Care, Program Manager for DME</i>
2:15-2:25 p.m.	<p>Family Perspective on Access to DME</p> How does the system for accessing DME affect families caring for children with special health care needs?	<i>Erin Ward, Parent of a child with special health care needs; Family Initiatives Coordinator, Center for Families, Children's Hospital Boston</i>
2:25-2:35 p.m.	Question & Answer Period	

Durable Medical Equipment: Issues for CYSHCN

2:40-3:05 p.m.

Part II: Small Group Discussions

All participants

Discussion

1. Access to DME presents challenges throughout the system of care for CSHCN. What are the primary challenges for families, for health care providers, for payers, for vendors and others? What are some contributing factors?
2. How can the Consortium play a role in addressing these challenges? What existing resources and services might present opportunities for collaboration?

3:05-3:15 p.m.

[Access to DME: Summary of Key Challenges and Opportunities](#)

Small Group Facilitators

This document summarizes the responses to the discussion questions above.

[Access to DME: A Conceptual Framework](#)

This visual illustration of the interplay among the various challenges to accessing DME for CSHCN is based on the outcomes of the small group discussions.

3:15-3:25 p.m.

What is the future of publicly funded health plans in Massachusetts?

Jennifer Chow, Program Associate, Children's Division, Health Care for All

Information

Report on the status of the Governor's Health Care Reform Plan and the potential impact on Medicaid and the Children's Medical Security Plan.

3:25-3:30 p.m.

Announcements

Information

- [Family-Professional Partners Institute](#)
- [Consortium Participant Survey](#)

*Linda Freeman & Suzanne Gottlieb,
Family Participation Work Group*

*Stephanie Cálves, Project Director, MA
Consortium for CSHCN*

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Networking: *Members of the Consortium are invited to use this time for informal networking, Work Group or sub-committee meetings, etc. Take advantage of easy access to colleagues, associates and friends.*
