

DATE	QUESTION	FROM	Response	Sent
10/22/2012	Our experience in implementing long-term care programs has led us to believe that it is in the best interest for providers not accustomed to working with MCOs – like HCBS and LTSS providers – to have rate certainty. This generally comes from requiring MCOs to maintain consistent reimbursement for HCBS providers to that paid by the State. Assuming this is the direction of the State, will the State provide MCOs with both the billing codes and the associated state reimbursement rates?	Jodi Stefanick UHC	The procurement documents will request bidders submit their proposed approach to reimbursing LTSS providers that is value-based and emphasizes quality. The procurement library will contain information regarding the state's current reimbursement approach and rates.	yes
10/22/2012	Credentialing non-traditional providers, such as HCBS providers, is generally more unique state by state and, in many instances, more confusing to providers than traditional provider credentialing. We would recommend the State require MCOs to follow the established State-mandated Medicaid process for credentialing. If the State agrees, can you please provide us with a copy of the State application form as well as the current State Medicaid credentialing process for HCBS providers?	Jodi Stefanick UHC	The successful bidder will need to have NCQA accreditation, and will be expected to credential all network providers according to NCQA standards. If there is not an NCQA process for HCBS providers, then the bidders should submit their credentialing approach in their response. The current Medicaid provider application process is available on the DHS website at http://www.dhs.ri.gov .	yes
10/22/2012	If, on the other hand, the State would prefer to use MCO-specific processes, does the State need to approve our HCBS provider enrollment application and process?	Jodi Stefanick UHC	N/A	yes
10/22/2012	We assume that contracting for non-traditional providers, such as HCBS, will follow current state processes for contract and LOI approval. If this will be the State's approach, can you please confirm what the current contracting and LOI review process is?	Jodi Stefanick UHC	The current Medicaid provider application process is available on the DHS website at http://www.dhs.ri.gov .	yes
10/22/2012	In addition to the comprehensive network provisions proposed above for nursing homes, we believe that minimizing political opposition with nursing homes can be greatly enhanced by requiring MCOs to pay nursing homes with existing Medicaid reimbursement methodology. Please confirm it is the intent of the State to require MCOs to continue to pay nursing homes as they are paid by the State today.	Jodi Stefanick UHC	The procurement documents will request bidders submit their proposed approach to reimbursing nursing home providers that is value-based and emphasizes quality. Bidders may also choose to reimburse nursing homes at the current FFS rates for a transitional period. The procurement library will contain information regarding the state's current reimbursement approach and rates.	yes

1/17/2013	My name is Christine Harhaj and I am writing from Avalere Health, a Washington, DC-based health policy research and consulting firm that is closely tracking the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid's (CMS') Financial Alignment Demonstration, which aims to integrate care for beneficiaries who are dually-eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid—I believe Rhode Island is calling this the “Integrated Care Initiative.” I have not seen any recent updates on the state’s Executive Office of Health & Human Services’ website, and wanted to reach out and see if you could provide me with a status update for your initiative. Any and all information you can share would be greatly appreciated!	Christine Harhaj Avalere Health LLC	RI is one of several states pursuing implementation of the Financial Alignment Demonstration with CMS for calendar year 2014. RI will approach this initiative in two phases - the first phase being a procurement for all Medicaid covered services for Medicaid-only and MME clients, in particular long-term services and supports. This procurement will be issued in the next 3-4 weeks. RI Medicaid continues to meet with CMS on a regular basis, and expects to be negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding with CMS in the first quarter of calendar year 2013. Please continue to check our website for updates.	yes
1/17/2013	What is the update on the expected date of the LOI Public Release - when do you expect the document to be available?	Beth Marootian NHPRI	The procurement has been sent to Purchasing. The LOI should be released in the next 3-4 weeks, but EOHHS cannot commit to an exact date.	yes
1/17/2013	What is the update on the expected date of the MLTC Readiness Review Member Enrollment (1st Effective Date)	Beth Marootian NHPRI	EOHHS' first anticipated enrollment date is September 1, 2013. Timeframe for readiness review is anticipated to be the months of May and June 2013. These dates are contingent on the release of the LOI.	yes
1/17/2013	What is the update on the expected date of the Medicare Benefit Readiness Review Member Enrollment (1st Effective Date)	Beth Marootian NHPRI	CMS recently provided states with guidance on enrollment for the financial alignment demonstration in 2014. CMS offered four enrollment start dates in this guidance. EOHHS is reviewing this guidance internally, but has not decided which enrollment start date will be pursued.	yes