**Date Mailed:** May 30, 2025 **Docket No.:** 25-011512

Case No.: Petitioner:

## **HEARING DECISION**

Following Petitioner's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a hearing was held via telephone conference on April 30, 2025. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Rebecca Roth and Roianne Brown. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-11 was received and admitted.

## <u>ISSUE</u>

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's Medicaid Healthy Michigan Plan (MA-HMP) because he began receiving Medicare?

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

- 1. On February 2025, Petitioner began receiving Medicare Part B.
- 2. On March 2025, a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice was sent to Petitioner informing him that his MA-HMP would be closing effective April 1, 2025, because
- 3. On April 2025, Petitioner's MA-HMP closed because he began receiving Medicare.
- 4. On March 15, 2025, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the closure of MA-HMP.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

## **Targeted Population**

The Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) provides health care coverage for individuals who: • Are 19-64 years of age. • Do not qualify for or are not enrolled in Medicare. • Do not qualify for or are not enrolled in other Medicaid programs. • Are not pregnant at the time of application. • Meet Michigan residency requirements. • Meet Medicaid citizenship requirements. • Have income at or below 133 percent Federal Poverty Level (FPL). BEM 137

In this case, Petitioner began receiving Medicare in February 2025. Policy states that HMP provide health care coverage for individuals who "do not qualify or are not enrolled in Medicare." Petitioner qualifies and is enrolled in Medicare and therefore he is not entitled to MA-HMP, and the closure was proper and correct and consistent with Department policy. BEM 137

Petitioner argued that his VA housebound allowance should not be included as income in determining his eligibility for MA-HMP and that BEM 137 is inconsistent with the federal statute. Petitioner's closure of MA-HMP was not based on him being over any income limit, it was based on his eligibility and receipt of Medicare.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed Petitioner's MA-HMP case due to his receipt of Medicare.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.



APPEAL RIGHTS: Petitioner may appeal this Hearing Decision to the circuit court. Rules for appeals to the circuit court can be found in the Michigan Court Rules (MCR), including MCR 7.101 to MCR 7.123, available at the Michigan Courts website at courts.michigan.gov. The Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) cannot provide legal advice, but assistance may be available through the State Bar of Michigan at https://lrs.michbar.org or Michigan Legal Help at https://michiganlegalhelp.org. A copy of the circuit court appeal should be sent to MOAHR. A circuit court appeal may result in a reversal of the Hearing Decision.

Either party who disagrees with this Hearing Decision may also send a written request for a rehearing and/or reconsideration to MOAHR within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision. The request should include Petitioner's name, the docket number from page 1 of this Hearing Decision, an explanation of the specific reasons for the request, and any documents supporting the request. The request should be sent to MOAHR

- by email to MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov, OR
- by fax at (517) 763-0155, **OR**
- by mail addressed to Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules Rehearing/Reconsideration Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing Michigan 48909-8139

Documents sent via email are not secure and can be faxed or mailed to avoid any potential risks. Requests MOAHR receives more than 30 days from the mailing date of this Hearing Decision may be considered untimely and dismissed.

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SCHAEFERM

**EQADHEARINGS** 

**BSC2HEARINGDECISIONS** 

**MOAHR** 

**Via First Class Mail:** 

**Petitioner**