Maryland Did Not Adequately Secure Its Medicaid Data and Information Systems

What OIG Found
Maryland did not adequately secure its Medicaid data and information systems in accordance with Federal requirements and guidance. Although Maryland had adopted a security program for its MMIS, numerous significant system vulnerabilities existed. These vulnerabilities remained because Maryland did not implement sufficient controls over its MMIS data and information systems. Although we did not identify evidence that anyone had exploited these vulnerabilities, exploitation could have resulted in unauthorized access to and disclosure of Medicaid data, as well as the disruption of critical Medicaid operations. These vulnerabilities were collectively and, in some cases, individually significant and could have compromised the integrity of Maryland’s Medicaid program.

We did not review Maryland’s Medicaid administrative costs that resulted from the failed MMIS replacement project. At the time of our audit, Maryland was engaged in ongoing litigation with the contractor. Accordingly, we make no recommendations regarding those costs.

What OIG Recommends and Maryland Comments
We recommend that Maryland improve its Medicaid security program to secure Medicaid data and information systems in accordance with Federal requirements.

In written comments on our draft report, Maryland concurred with our recommendations and described actions that it had taken or plans to take to implement them.