



MCAC Meeting Notes
June 4, 2014 7:00 AM
Hazard Building, Garden Conference Room

MCAC Members Present: Catherine Cummings, Patricia Flanagan, Stephen Davis, Jose Polanco, Cecilia Pelkey, Dave Feeney, Renee Rulin, Chris Gadbois,

Interested Parties Present: Catherine Cordy, Jennifer Sternick, and Bruce McIntyre (EOHHS); Nicole Alexander-Scott and Utpola Bandy(Health); Terry Lee, Eric Kimelblatt, and William Dozier (Gilead).

Staff Present: Deidre Gifford, Jerry Fingerut, Diana Beaton

Meeting Convened: 7:00 AM

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
2. **Review of draft Medicaid FFS pre-authorization policies**
 - a. Reduction Mammoplasty (final draft)
 - b. Dermabrasion
 - c. Direct Acting Antiviral Medications for the treatment of Hepatitis C

A review of the first two policies were given. There were no comments and the draft policies were accepted by the Committee.

Hepatitis C Treatment/Discussion

The Medicaid Director reported that this is an issue of critical importance to EOHHS in terms of the cost of the medications and the number of Medicaid beneficiaries who have or may develop Hepatitis C. EOHHS has to make this decision in light of the 43,000 new Medicaid Expansion members who enrolled in Medicaid in the last six months. 2,200 people on Medicaid currently have Hepatitis C prior to the Medicaid Expansion. EOHHS is making this decision about the policy on Hepatitis C drugs seriously and looks to the Committee for feedback.

The process for review of the new Hepatitis C treatment policy was presented. EOHHS had met with the Health Plan Medical Directors. In addition, there was an internal pharmacy steering committee that is reviewing the policy and having discussions with the Dept. of Corrections. EOHHS looked at what other states have done. The Oregon Health Sciences University's, Center for Evidence-based Policy, did a review of Sofosbuvir for the Treatment of Hepatitis C and Evaluation of Treatment Guidelines. This was distributed to Committee members by email prior to the meeting.

The draft policy was distributed for the Committee's review. EOHHS will work with providers to establish a prior authorization process.

Issues include:

- a. Compliance

- b. Appropriateness of treatment
- c. Concurrent Substance Abuse and effects on efficacy and compliance
- d. Budget implications

Ethical considerations

General Comments:

- Don't leave out practitioners with experience treating these patients but not necessarily in a specialty practice.
- The policy does not address re-infection. SA is a main source of infection and re-infection. One health plan Medical Director stated that there's a 6 month requirement of no SA x 6 months for a liver transplant.
- Suggested drug company do pilot for patients with SA
- Patients undergoing TB tx (9 month tx) find difficulty with tx regimen due to transportation issues, cultural issues, and compliance with tx.
- Policy doesn't address other medications patients are taking
- Can use specialty pharmacies; they can communicate with specialty practices. Acutane is an example of a product and tx regimen that is closely monitored.

Actions:

- A provision in the policy will be made for practitioners with experience; Will include them in addition to specialty providers.

3. MCAC Use of Advisory Letters

The draft MCAC Charter was distributed at the meeting. Discussed use of advisory letters from the committee as a means to have a more solid standing from the Committee on issues that the Medicaid Director can share with the Secretary. The Committee approved the use of advisory letters.

4. Updates

RIte Care Renewals- The EOHHS will be sending out 42,000 renewal notices to current RIte Care and RIte Share beneficiaries. Due to budget constraints, the renewal process is occurring sooner than anticipated.

Medicaid Expansion- The EOHHS enrolled approximately 43,000 new Medicaid beneficiaries as a result of the ACA's Medicaid Expansion provision. RI was one of the states that chose to expand Medicaid to single adults, age 19-64 (without dependent children).

5. Public Comments

Gilead drug representatives at the meeting mentioned the "Support Path" program for patients. It's a resource for providers.

6. Next Steps

Revise policy based on MCAC comments

Meeting Adjourned 8:15 AM

Next Meeting- Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 7:00 AM