

Minutes

2009 Physicians' Advisory Committee Meeting

September 17, 2009

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Location: Albuquerque, NM

Meeting called by: Thomas-Love Physician Advisory Committee

Facilitators: Dr. Kim Reed- Chairperson

Attendees:
Dr. Charles Derus (IL)
Dr. Robert Parker (IL)
Dr. Guadalupe Zamora (TX)
Dr. William Mitchell (NM)
Dr. Peter Beaudette (NM)
Dr. Matthew Fontana (NM)
Dr. Sydney Ross-Davis (IL)
Dr. Paul Handel (IL)
Kim Staton

Agenda Topics

Welcome Dr. Matthew Fontana

Patient Centered Medical Home Dr. Matthew Fontana

Multiple Surgery Prices Dr. Kim Reed

ICD-10 Dr. Sydney Ross-Davis

E-Prescribing Dr. Sydney Ross-Davis

Healthcare Reform Dr. Paul Handel

Minutes

Patient Centered Medical Home

Dr. Fontana gave a brief overview of the Patient Centered Medical Home program for HCSC. He reviewed the guiding principles of the initiative which include, in part, enhanced coordination of care, promoting use of nationally recognized treatment guidelines, improved health outcomes for members. Dr. Reed shared that BCBSIL will be doing a pilot with two multi-specialty medical groups in the Chicago area. Pilots are also being planned in Texas. Dr. Fontana noted that demonstration projects throughout the country are piloting a variety of funding methodologies. This topic can be added to the March meeting agenda for further discussion and follow-up.

Multiple Surgery Pricing

Dr. Reed reviewed proposed changes for Multiple Surgery Pricing. In Illinois, when there are multiple procedures done by the same surgeon in the same operative area, the Physician was paid 100% of the allowed price for the highest procedure and 50% for the other procedure(s). Multiple procedures which involve different operative areas are each reimbursed at 100% of the allowed price. This is known as “Single Operative Area” pricing.

In NM and OK, physicians are paid 100% for the highest procedure and a tiered payment based on the other procedures, regardless of whether the procedures are in the same or separate operative areas. This is known as “Single Operative Session” pricing, which is consistent with CMS’s approach to Multiple Surgery Pricing.

IL will be changing to the “single operative session pricing” in October. TX is reviewing this issue, and no decision has been made to move away from “single operative area” pricing.

Dr. Reed will follow up on if this is applicable when there are different surgeons operating simultaneously.

ICD-10

Dr. Sydney Ross-Davis shared information on the upcoming transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 coding. ICD-10 expands the field length (of coding) and how data is transmitted. With the use of ICD-10, better data will be provided, it will make it easier to track public health, process claims, design claims system and track fraud and abuse. These codes will also provide Providers with a clearer understanding of their patient’s medical issues and history. ICD-10 is scheduled to be effective October 2013. The use of these codes is mandated. Failure to use them could result in delayed payments.

A copy of this presentation will be sent to all the Physicians.

E-Prescribing

Dr. Sydney Ross-Davis provided the group with an overview of E-Prescribing. This tool allows the Provider to electronically send a patient’s prescription to a pharmacy. The use of E-Prescribing also provides the Provider with the patient’s medication history, fill status and can overall improve medication safety and affordability. The IL plan launched a pilot for E-Prescribing in April 2007 with other Health Plans, 500 trial Providers and 3 vendors. There has been some positive feedback from the pilot about the use of E-Prescribing. The critical needs that have been identified are education for the Providers, incentives and implementation assistance.

Healthcare Reform

Dr. Handel shared that there are currently 3 bills for Healthcare Reform. All of the bills will have a significant impact to Physician community. None of the bills have any meaningful tort reform. The AMA supports the government plan. He encouraged all AMA Physicians to weigh in and give the AMA their opinion.

Next Meeting:

March 18, 2010 in Chicago, IL
300 E. Randolph St.