



MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

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Thursday, September 15, 2011

Minutes

Chair Moon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Conway, Fleig, Kan, Krumm, Lyles, McLean, Petty, Weinstein, and Worthington.

ITEM 1.

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Petty made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2011 public meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Kan and unanimously approved.

Before turning the staff updates, Commissioner Fleig, Co-Chair of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange's Small Business Health Options Program Exchange, provided an update regarding that committee. He said that the advisory committee is charged with considering options for the design and function of the Small Business Health Options Program ("SHOP") Exchange. The advisory committee's work includes all the provisions within the SHOP Exchange's legislatively mandated study.

ITEM 2.

Update of Activities

Ben Steffen, Acting Executive Director, said the SHOP Exchange is one of four advisory committees established by the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. The other advisory committees include the Operating Model and Insurance Rules Advisory Committee, the Navigator and Enrollment Advisory Committee, and the Finance and Sustainability Advisory Committee. Mr. Steffen noted that he serves as Board Liaison to the Finance and Sustainability Advisory Committee, which must consider options that will result in the Exchange being self-sustaining by 2015. The scope of the advisory committee's work includes all the provisions regarding financing of the Exchange within the legislatively mandated study.

Mr. Steffen welcomed Diana Dembeck to Commission staff. Diana comes to the Maryland Health Care Commission from the Health Services Cost Review Commission where she served as Chief Financial Officer for 15 years. She will join the Commission's Administrative Division and will oversee the budget and several other financial projects.

Linda Bartnyska, Chief, Cost and Quality Analysis, updated the Commission on more recent current population survey results.

ITEM 3.

FINAL ACTION: COMAR 10.24.05 – Continuation of Non-Primary Research Waivers through Participation in the Follow-On C-PORT E Registry

Dolores Sands, Chief, Specialized Services Policy and Planning, presented for consideration final regulations regarding the Continuation of Non-Primary Research Waivers through Participation in the Follow-On C-PORT E Registry. She noted that the regulations will eliminate the requirement for patient follow-up at six weeks post-procedure. She stated that the regulations will instead look to the patient's condition at the time of discharge from the hospital after the procedure. This change will make Maryland's requirements consistent with other states participating in the C-PORT E Follow-On Registry. Ms. Sands noted that during the 30-day comment period, the Commission received no comments. Commissioner Petty made a motion to adopt the regulations, which was seconded by Commissioner Lyles and unanimously approved.

ACTION: COMAR 10.24.05 – Continuation of Non-Primary Research Waivers through Participation in the Follow-On C-PORT E Registry is hereby APPROVED, as final.

ITEM 4.

FINAL ACTION: COMAR 10.25.08 – Evaluation of Quality and Performance of Health Plans

Carol Christmyer, Chief of Long-Term Care Quality Initiative, presented final regulations that will expand the State's requirements for health care quality reporting to include preferred provider organizations and other plans entering the market. Ms. Christmyer noted that during the 30-day comment period, the Commission received no comments. Commissioner Petty made a motion to adopt the proposed regulations, which was seconded by Commissioner Krumm and unanimously approved.

ACTION: COMAR 10.25.08 – Evaluation of Quality and Performance of Health Plans are hereby APPROVED, as final.

ITEM 5.

ACTION: COMAR 10.25.16 – Electronic Health Record Incentives – Withdrawal, Emergency and Re-Proposed Action

David Sharp, Director, Center for Health Information Technology, presented re-proposed and emergency regulations that would require cash incentives be made available to primary care practices for the adoption and use of electronic health records. The regulations allow for incentives of an equivalent value to be disbursed if agreed to by a primary care practice and payor. Public comments were received by two organizations during the 30-day comment period. Staff analyzed the comments and re-proposed additional modifications to the regulations; non-substantive wording changes were also included in the re-proposed changes. Staff recommended that the Commission accept these changes as re-proposed and emergency regulation.

ACTION: COMAR 10.25.16 – Electronic Health Record Incentives are hereby APPROVED as emergency and re-proposed action.

ITEM 6.

ACTION: Renewal of Primary PCI Waiver – Carroll Hospital Center (Docket No. 11-06-0059 WR)

Ms. Sands presented the recommendation on Carroll Hospital Center's application for renewal of its primary percutaneous coronary intervention (pPCI) waiver that will allow the hospital to continue to provide pPCI services without on-site cardiac surgery. Ms. Sands said that Carroll Hospital Center met all of the requirements for renewal of its two-year pPCI waiver, noting that Carroll Hospital Center met the 90 minute door to balloon threshold 86% of the time in 2010. Commissioner Krumm made a motion to renew the Primary PCI waiver for two years, which was seconded by Commissioner McLean and unanimously approved.

ACTION: Carroll Hospital Center is hereby granted a two-year primary PCI waiver.

ITEM 7.

PRESENTATION: Institutional Review Board – Background and Alternative IRB

David Sharp, Director, Center for Health Information Technology, provided an overview and background on the MHCC's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The recent changes to COMAR 10.25.11, Institutional Review Board enable the Commission to convene an IRB or to recognize an existing IRB; Chesapeake IRB, which has a background in reviewing human research and protection programs was identified as an existing organization that could support the MHCC is evaluating data requests. As part of the presentation, the Commission was alerted that at the October meeting staff would be presenting an application for data from the Medical Care Data Base, the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems data base, and the Maryland Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures data base.

ITEM 8.

UPDATE: Patient Centered Medical Home – Rapid Fire Review with Program Participants

Ben Steffen, Acting Executive Director, welcomed presenters for the Maryland Multipayer Patient Centered Medical Home program, Rapid Fire Review. Susan Myers provided a brief overview of the program followed by the presenters that are actively engaging in the program as payment methodology developer, transformation leader, medical director, and payer. Ms. Myers introduced the following presenters: Dr. Niharika Khanna, Director of the Maryland Learning Collaborative and a professor at the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine; Mr. Guy D'Andrea, President of Discern Consulting and a consultant on to the Commission on the payment methodology; Dr. Carol Reynolds, Medical Director of Potomac Physicians, a large community practice with practice locations in Baltimore, Annapolis, and Frederick; and Ms. Kathy Schwab, Program Manager for United HealthCare, PCMH programs in the eastern United States.

ITEM 9.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m., upon motion of Commissioner Weinstein, which was seconded by Commissioner Fleig and unanimously approved.