



MRT Work Group Meeting Summary

WORK GROUP NAME:

Basic Benefit Review

MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION:

September 14, 2011 – 10:30-3:00

90 Church Street, 4th floor, Conference Room A/B, Manhattan

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Co-chair – President and CEO, Emblem Health, Frank Branchini
(not in attendance –represented by William Gillespie, MD)

Co-chair – Nirav Shah, MD, MPH, Commissioner of Health (attended via telephone)

Foster Gesten, MD; Greg Allen; George Thomas, MD; Arnold Saperstein, MD; Peter Newell; Kate Breslin; Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez MS, MPH; Eliot Lazar, MD, MBA; Ira Lamster, DDS, MMSc; Joseph Stankaitis, MD, MPH; Elisabeth Benjamin; Eugene Heslin, MD; Mark Gibson; Tony Greco, MD representing Doug DeLong, MD, FACP; Henry Chung, MD; Basit Chaudhry, MD, PhD; Ellie Ward representing Robert Corwin, MD; Kathy Shure (via telephone); Ed Hannon, PhD; and Ron Bass.

SUMMARY OF KEY MEETING CONTENT:

The first meeting was used to provide an overview of current NYS Medicaid benefits and which benefits must be provided under federal law. The group also discussed their charge and possible areas which would provide the greatest potential cost-savings and benefit to the Medicaid patients.

This second meeting of the work group began with introductions and review of the goals of the work group which are to:

- 1.) *produce a short report with specific recommendations to the Medicaid Redesign Team which are: budget neutral; evidence-informed; and cost-effective; and*
- 2.) *establish a process to do on-going assessment of benefits against evidence going forward.*

Materials were shared with the group to assist in determining which benefits will be reviewed. It was also discussed that e-mails received through the work group's e-mail mailbox would be distributed to the members.

Draft principles for the group were shared and discussed. Suggestions were made for revisions. The revised document will be shared with all of the members and discussed at the next meeting.

An overview of the research process was provided along with a discussion of the hierarchy of evidence. Examples of the ways other states use evidence were provided.

Specific NYS benefits (e.g., smoking cessation, angioplasty, and elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks) were discussed, however, no specific benefits were identified for benefit reform.

NEXT STEPS/PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next steps for the group are to:

- review the revised draft of principles which will be circulated to members;
- review the draft process document which will be circulated to members;
- develop a set of specific recommendations to reduce costs through benefit redesign.

NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION:

Tuesday, October 4, 2011 * 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. * NYS Dept. of Health Offices
The Frear Building, One Fulton Street * Troy, NY 12180