



MRT Work Group Meeting Summary

WORK GROUP NAME:

Basic Benefit Review - Meeting 4

MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION:

October 19, 2011 – 10:30-3:00
NYS DOH Capital District Regional Office
Saratoga Conference Room, Frear Building, One Fulton Street, Troy

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
Foster Gesten, MD; Greg Allen; George Thomas, MD; Arnold Saperstein, MD – via phone; Peter Newell; Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez MS, MPH; David Lehmann, MD; Ira Lamster, DDS, MMSc; Joseph Stankaitis, MD, MPH; R. Scott Braithwaite, MD, MMSc; Eugene Heslin, MD; Mark Gibson; Doug DeLong, MD, FACP; Robert Corwin, MD; Kathleen Shure; and Henry Chung, MD -via phone

SUMMARY OF KEY MEETING CONTENT:

This fourth and final meeting of the work group began with a brief review of the timeframes and plans for moving the groups finalized work products forward to the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT). The three basic work products to be presented to the MRT are the documents containing 1.) the Principles for Benefit Design, 2.) the Process for Benefit Review going forward; and 3.) the proposals for specific reforms to the current Medicaid benefit package. After these documents are finalized and presented to the MRT, the work group will end. Final drafts of the principles and process documents were briefly reviewed and approved by all present group members.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the ten proposals for specific reforms to the Medicaid benefit package in detail. The proposed reforms (in the order they were discussed) are:

- Expand podiatry coverage for adult recipients with Diabetes Mellitus;
- Limit coverage of arthroscopic knee surgery for the treatment of osteoarthritis;
- Limit coverage for the treatment of low back pain without compelling evidence;
- Authorize coverage for lactation counseling provided by Certified Lactation Consultants;
- Limit coverage for elective Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) (Coronary Angioplasty) against appropriate criteria;
- Authorize coverage for intensive behavioral therapy for the treatment of obesity;
- Eliminate coverage for elective cesarean section deliveries and induction of labor at less than 39 weeks gestation with no medical indication;
- Authorize coverage for smoking cessation counseling by dentists;
- Limit coverage for growth hormone therapy for the treatment of idiopathic short stature;
- And Expand coverage for the First-time Mothers/Newborns (FTM/N) a.k.a. Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) on a statewide basis.



NEXT STEPS

The next steps for the group are to:

- finalize the specific benefit reform recommendations to be shared with the MRT – via e-mail communication;
- prepare and submit a report to the MRT which includes all recommendations;
- respond to any questions or requests for information from the MRT on the three work products.

There will be no future meetings of this group.