

OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION REIMBURSEMENT COMMITTEE

**June 17, 12:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting**

M I N U T E S

Chair Denise Leonard called the meeting to order and asked anyone calling in by phone to let us know. The grid at the end of these minutes reflects meeting attendance.

The Chair reminded the committee of the OHCA Antitrust Compliance, Conflict of Interest, and Confidentiality Policies linked to the agenda.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
Seconded; motion carried.

Erin Hart began the meeting with a discussion of our new Financial Management Conference held August 19-20 at the Westerville Renaissance Hotel. The first half day, which will be priced separately, is an intensive on the Medicaid QIP program sharing operator best practices to improve opportunities for success. The second day will feature important topics related to the Ohio biennial budget, Medicaid transition from RUGS to PDPM, best practices in finance, KPIs for SNF sustainability as well as financing and transaction trends. We hope all reimbursement committee members will attend.

Pete Van Runkle and Debbie Jenkins then provided an overview of the state budget bill. Mr. Van Runkle shared that the Senate passed their version of the bill last week and because the Senate did not concur with the House's version, the start of the conference committee process has begun to iron out the differences between the Administration's, House and Senate versions. Conferees have now been appointed (Chair and Vice Chair of the House and Senate Finance Committee, House Speaker, Senate President plus representatives from Administration) and public hearings were held whereby updated fiscal projections and Medicaid caseload numbers were presented by the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) and the Legislative Service Commission (LSC). While these newer projections were very close to original estimates presented at the start of the budget process, it was noted that these updated estimates were based on the "status quo" and could significantly be affected by the changes being discussed at the federal level via the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA).

Ms Jenkins then highlighted the differences, with respect to SNF services, between the House and Senate versions of the bill. As committee members may recall, the House various of the bill maintained the move to PDPM using the nursing only component (as presented originally by the

Administration), made significant changes to the Medicaid private room program, and did not include our amendment to move toward a fair rental value system for capital reimbursement beginning in the next biennial. The House version did however remove the prohibition of SNF sales to REITS. Following the House version of the bill, OHCA became laser-focused on a key technical provision that would add a conversion factor to the new PDPM rates since PDPM case mix scores are much lower than RUG scores resulting in a significant rate cut for caring for the same individuals. Fortunately, the Senate version of the bill included our conversion amendment and adjusted the private room program back to where it is today whereby there would not be a cap on private room beds but on annual dollars of \$160M for each state fiscal year (SFY). The Senate version also maintained nursing only under the PDPM methodology, something that Ms Jenkins noted is likely to remain during the conference committee since it was in all versions of the budget. As for our technical amendment on the conversion factor, it was also noted that the administration has appeared to concur that this was a technical oversight on their part, and in no way was the Administration proposing a significant rate cut in the moving from RUGS to PDPM. It should also be noted that the specific conversion factor has been outlined in the Senate version via our amendment so we remain optimistic that it will remain in the final bill.

The Senate version of the bill also clarified an important aspect of how July 1 case mix scores will be calculated. It was confirmed that facility case mix calculations would proceed as they currently are. For those facilities with a frozen case mix score, the frozen score will be used to set the July 1 rates. For those facilities who have not frozen their case mix score, July 1 rates will be calculated based the average of the 4th quarter of 2024 and 1st quarter of 2025 scores.

And finally, the PDPM conversion and OHCA's desire to have a longer phase in, the Senate version unfortunately did not accept our amendment for a longer phase-in as did the House. As a result, the Senate version begins the PDPM phase in January 1, 2026 with 1/3 PDPM and 2/3 RUG; July 1, 2026 goes to 2/3 PDPM and 1/3 RUG with full phase-in to PDPM on January 1, 2027.

Mr. VanRunkle summarized that we remain hopeful in the final budget bill that the REIT language will remain out and the private room program will remain operating as it is today with an annual dollar cap of \$160M. Outstanding differing items from the various budget versions remain the conversion factor, although with ODM stating it was not their intention to cut rates, OHCA remains hopeful that will survive the conference committee process as well. Two other items that OHCA specifically did not introduce but support include a dialysis per treatment add-on of \$110 when treatment is provided in a nursing facility as well as the increase in personal needs allowance. The Administration's budget proposed an increase to \$100, the House version dropped it to \$75 and the Senate version took it back to where it is today at \$50. OHCA is supportive of an increase.

Committee members are encouraged to watch NewsBites for updates because all signs point to a final budget by July 1, 2025.

Erin Hart then provided a report on Medicaid recoupments. She is working hard with all members to help them reconcile the multiple variations of remittance advices and recoupments that have

occurred between March and May. She alerted committee members that we have created a small workgroup through the billing committee to focus ODM on what is actually occurring with respect to egregious data issues and various other inaccuracies before the recoupment dashboard is issued. We feel strongly that the dashboard and delays in further recoupments are a result of our continued examples that show many issues remain with the system. Our goal is to avoid any further administrative burden related to recoupments and to get all the data issues on the table before the dashboard is issued and recoupments begin again.

Diane Dietz then provided a brief update on the ongoing issues related to hospital exemptions. She encouraged all committee members to audit their hospital exemptions for consistency in physician signature between the physician listed on the 07000 (if not actually signed) and who signed the orders and attestation in the supporting documents. She also noted that OHCA remains concerned with the payment ramification of using the hospital exemption as an authorization for Medicaid payment, particularly as discrepancies and errors are discovered post-admission. She has shared examples with ODM and is continuing to seek clarification. At this point the advice would be to do a resident review to comply with PASRR requirements and a level of care (LOC) determination from the local AAA to support payment. However, we have been told that AAAs will not back-date a LOC until such time as PASRR requirements are met, and hospital exemptions are actually an exemption of PASRR.

The committee then heard a report related to federal budget reconciliation and the OBBBA. As members are aware the House version was finalized before Memorial Day with many provisions that could impact the Medicaid program. Most concerning issue is one of provider taxes. House took approach to put a moratorium on any further increases AFTER the budget reconciliation is in-acted by the President. Ohio's current state budget has increases in hospital provider taxes and if the House's version of the reconciliation budget sticks, Ohio should be okay. Unfortunately, Ohio is also one of only seven states that has a waiver in managed care provider taxes allowing the state to charge more for plans who serve Medicaid consumers. This waiver is also set to be eliminated in the House version of the OBBBA. Together if those two provisions went through, it could result in a phased-in \$5-6B net loss to Ohio's budget.

Mr. VanRunkle then discussed the newly released Senate Finance Committee version of the OBBBA. While this version needs to go before the full Senate to be voted out, Senate Finance covers many issues at the heart of what we do—Medicaid as well as taxes which many believe is a key reason for the large Medicaid cuts. While the President and Speaker of the House encouraged the Senate not to tinker with many of the delicate budget provisions in their version, it appears the Senate Finance Committee has done just that. Specifically related to provider taxes, instead of the grandfathering at current levels as the House proposed, grandfathering is only available to states who did not expand Medicaid. Medicaid expansion states, like Ohio, will be forced to gradually reduce their provider taxes over the next few years to hit a base of only 3.5%. The Senate Finance version did exempt skilled nursing and ICF provider taxes from this new floor but this significant hit to any state budget will have a trickle-down effect that is worth noting. Also, the Senate Finance committee version did not address the elimination of the waiver managed care plan have for charge a higher tax for Medicaid beneficiaries that Ohio is

also concerned about. However, because of these significant differences, many are wondering how this process will unfold with the artificial July 4th deadline the President has imposed for the OBBBA. Clearly, many things could unfold in this entire process and only time will tell.

With no additional business before the group, the meeting was adjourned. The next meet is scheduled for July 18 at 10 am.

Attendance:

First Name	Last Name	7/25/24	8/22/24	9/18/24	10/16/24	11/21/24	12/18/25	1/15/25	2/19/25	3/19/25	4/16/25	5/21/25	6/17/25
Joe	Abraham				P	P	P	P	P		P		P
Jacqueline	Altier					P							
Josh	Anderson	P	P	P	P	P		P					
Steve	Anderson	P	P	P	P	P				P	P	P	P
Bryan	Asher											P	P
Edward	Beatrice	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	
Kayla	Bell							P	P				
Donna	Bicker								P				
Jennifer	Bidka	P	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P
Stephanie	Blakeman			P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	
Shlomo	Brisk		P	P	P		P			P		P	
Stephanie	Browning	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eric	Buls	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Nancy	Burden						P	P	P	P		P	
Tim	Cahill												
Kelly	Camp												P
Jennifer	Campbell	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Nathan	Carder	P	P			P				P	P		P
Bruce	Carpenter			P				P	P	P	P		
Steven	Carrico	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P
Tammy	Cassidy												P
Jennifer	Cidila		P		P				P				
Brian	Coil							P				P	P
Kimberly	Corrigan	P	P				P						
Gabrielle	Corwin		P	P	P	P	P	P			P		
Russell	Corwin	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eli	Coury									P		P	P
Scott	Cunningham	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Tracie	D'Amato	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Tammy	Davis		P	P	P	P			P		P		

Tammi	DeSimone								P				
Diane	Dietz	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Titus	Donnell				P								
Josh	Dorn							P		P	P	P	P
Mike	Driver	P	P										
Matthew	Duddy	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
David	Elmore	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
John	Fleischer	P	P	P			P	P	P				P
Junior	Foster												
Austin	Gerber		P						P				
Michelle	Gill	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P
Priscilla	Glidewell					P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Brad	Granger	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Curtis	Green	P											
Nikita	Grimes						P		P				P
Tiffany	Hall					P	P	P	P				
Moriel	Hamui						P						
Emily	Hand	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P		
Janet	Harris	P		P	P	P		P	P		P	P	P
Erin	Hart	P	P		P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P
Scott	Heichel			P			P			P			
Nick	Hicks	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P
Jennifer	Butler-Hoover											P	
Sarah Jane	Horvath								P				
Deb	Ifft	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Nicole	Jablonski			P							P		
Patty	Jackson												
Debbie	Jenkins	P	P	P	P				P	P	P	P	P
Elizabeth	Jones		P		P					P	P	P	
Brian	Karpodinis	P	P				P	P	P				
Steve	Katona	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P
Ben	Kiss	P		P		P	P		P	P			
Chase	Kohn												
Dee	Kostolich												P
Jacob	Kries											P	P
Donn	Kump												P
Boris	Kushnir		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P		P
Tonya	Lambert					P	P	P			P		P
Liz	Lane	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Paul	Lang		P	P	P	P		P	P			P	P
Matt	Larsh								P	P	P	P	P
Tim	Lehman	P	P		P			P	P			P	

Denise	Leonard	P	P	P	P		P	P		P	P	P	P
Will	Levering			P	P	P	P		P	P		P	
William	Levering			P	P		P		P	P	P		
Beth	Lind	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P		P	P
Tiffany	Lockhart	P		P	P	P	P						
Brian	Marrie			P	P	P	P	P			P	P	P
Heidi	Mays						P						
Eileen	McCain												
Heidi	McCoy				P			P	P				P
Dianne	McFarland									P			
Steve	Meyer									P			
Troy	Mezera											P	
Emily	Miller				P								
Tracy	Mitchell	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P
Angie	Moore	P	P				P		P				P
Tammy	Moyer-Wilson		P										
Matt	Murray					P			P			P	
Bob	Nedrich	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jeanna	Neiheisel			P									
Rey	Nevarez			P		P				P			
Brian	Newman						P			P	P	P	
Daniel	Newman	P				P							
Karen	Nofziger	P								P			
Barb	Notardonato-Cole	P	P			P	P		P		P		
Rosemary	Orlando, CPA	P	P		P		P		P	P	P		P
Erin	Overla										P		
Matthew	Pool												
Derrick	Ratliff	P			P	P				P	P	P	
Paula	Reape	P	P		P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P
Auston	Reaser	P	P	P	P		P	P		P	P	P	P
Todd	Rice	P		P		P	P	P					
Jennifer	Richter	P											P
Chanda	Robson	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Dominic	Romeo								P	P	P		
Rick	Russo									P			P
Cheryl	Schermerhorn	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jane	Schoof	P	P				P					P	
Hemant	Shah	P				P			P	P			
Bob	Sharon												
Tony	Shaw	P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P		
Dwayne	Shepherd	P		P	P			P	P		P	P	P
Dean	Shipman												

Mike	Shoffner	P	P	P		P	P	P		P			
Pauline	Siler	P	P	P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P
Jessica	Siu	P	P				P		P	P			P
Pamela	Skrzynski						P	P	P		P		
Jana	Smith	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Adam	Swartz									P			
Sravani	Tallapaneni				P								
Cindy	Thomas					P			P				
Katie	Tira			P	P	P			P			P	P
Gina	Toigo	P	P	P	P	P	P		P		P	P	P
Stephanie	Trainer	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Julie	Uhler					P		P	P		P	P	
Jason	Umstot												P
Pete	Van Runkle	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Megan	Wahl	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Anastasia	Waltz							P		P	P		
Jessi	Wells				P	P	P			P			P
Matthew	Wine	P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Morgan	Wright	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Valerie	Youell								P		P		
Dave	Zabo	P	P										