

Meeting summary for OHCA Home Care and Hospice Member Call (03/13/2024)

Quick recap

The meeting encountered a technical issue with the meeting link but eventually started with Heidi announcing the discontinuation of the Hospice VBid model due to issues with the demonstration plans. Josh discussed ongoing issues with the home health payment rule and a NAC lawsuit against it, emphasizing miscommunication between the industry and CMS regarding spending levels. Pete provided updates on issues with Change Healthcare, particularly regarding the processing of claims and remittance advice. He also discussed the upcoming transition of Mycare, Ohio to a new model, as announced by Medicaid. Pete also discussed the recent changes in CDC guidance on Covid and the Ohca convention.

Summary

Technical Glitch and Good News

Josh and Pete encountered a technical issue with the meeting link. Josh had ensured all old links were deleted and Pete confirmed the links he sent were correct, but they still faced a connectivity problem. After a few minutes, members started joining the meeting. Josh then handed over to Heidi, who began with some good news.

VBid Model Discontinuation and Home Health Payment Rule Issues

Heidi announced the discontinuation of the Hospice VBid model due to issues with the demonstration plans, with more details on unwinding from MCOs to be provided later. Josh discussed ongoing issues with the home health payment rule and a NAC lawsuit against it, emphasizing miscommunication between the industry and CMS regarding spending levels. He also mentioned potential strategies to offset additional costs if cuts were removed and upcoming rules and proposals, including the finalization of the access rule mandating 80% of Medicaid spending on direct care wages and proposed changes to the electronic visit verification program in Ohio.

Change Healthcare Claims and Transition Updates

Pete provided updates on issues with Change Healthcare, particularly regarding the processing of claims and remittance advice. He mentioned that Matrix was changing to a new clearinghouse to resolve the issues and suggested that customers should receive updates on the transition process. Pete also discussed the availability of advanced payment options and recommended reaching out to managed care plans for payment relief options. He highlighted the option of handkeying claims into a portal or resubmitting them. Furthermore, he mentioned that Optum's e-prescribing system is

back up and running. pete also discussed a past incident and its implications for future actions, hinting at some information that had been shared over the past year and a half.

Mycare Ohio's Medicaid Transition to D-SNP Model

pete discussed the upcoming transition of Mycare, Ohio to a new model, as announced by Medicaid. The new model will be based on a dual eligible special needs plan (D-SNP), similar to Mycare. The state will begin soliciting bids for plans to participate in this new program in the coming months. The transition is intended to be as seamless as possible for members, with the same managed care plans likely being used. However, concerns were raised regarding the handling of Medicaid-only Mycare recipients in the new model, with advocacy efforts underway to ensure they have a choice between managed care and fee-for-service Medicaid.

CDC Guidance on Covid-19 Relaxed for Community, Strict for Healthcare Workers

pete discussed the recent changes in CDC guidance on Covid, noting that the rules for those living in the community have been relaxed, while rules for healthcare workers and those in facilities remain stringent. He emphasized that the guidance now focuses more on symptoms, particularly fever, rather than a strict stay-home and mask-wearing protocol. pete highlighted that the precautions recommended for those receiving home care or living in facilities might be more stringent than for the general public. He also mentioned that healthcare personnel still face a longer period before they can return to work after having Covid, symptoms, or testing positive. pete also discussed the different types of healthcare settings, ranging from home care to hospice and assisted living. He noted that the guidelines for workers apply to all these settings, but there's a grey area when it comes to assisted living, particularly whether it's classified as healthcare. pete mentioned that they challenged the assumption that assisted living falls under community guidance, not healthcare, and that the CDC confirmed this.

Ohca Convention and Upcoming Webinar

Josh introduces the Ohca convention and encourages attendees to sign up and spread the word about it. He mentions that non-members can attend the convention, which includes sessions for both home care and hospice. Heidi reminds attendees to have at least one complimentary ticket and mentions an upcoming free webinar for Ohca members on Oasis, which is scheduled for April 2nd at noon. The webinar will be recorded and slides will be available for viewing. The discussion also touches on the increase in humana redeterminations and reconsiderations.

Next steps

- Check the updated CMS model example of the Hospice election statement and use the new one for any new patients.
- Victoria will reach out to Aaron for help with Humana redeterminations and reconsiderations.

AI-generated content may be inaccurate or misleading. Always check for accuracy.