

Meeting summary for OHCA NF Member Call (03/05/2024)

Quick recap

Erin discussed the impact of a data breach at Change Healthcare, the Medicaid recruitment issue, and the submission of the minimum staffing rule to the Office of Budget Management. pete discussed the current legal strategies, potential accommodations for rural providers, and the status of the private room application process. pete and Joe discussed the potential for a two-party meeting related to price point negotiations or mediation. pete also emphasized the importance of being aware of facility policy if healthcare guidelines do not apply and the need for facilities to adjust their policies accordingly.

Summary

Ohca Sniff Member Call Kickoff

pete, Mandy, Erin, and Joe had a discussion. pete mentioned an issue with Uber that had been resolved. Mandy then started the meeting, welcoming everyone to the Ohca sniff member call and explaining how to use the Zoom platform for participation. Erin was set to kick off the meeting next.

Data Breach, Medicaid Recruitment, and Claim Reprocessing

Erin discussed the impact of a data breach at Change Healthcare, particularly for Matrix Care users who will need to manually bill claims as they transition to a new clearing house. She also highlighted the impact on pharmacy benefits through Optum's use of Change, which could lead to difficulties accessing medications. Erin then moved on to discuss the Medicaid recruitment issue, mentioning overpayments due to incorrect claim reprocessing in December and potential delays and cash flow issues related to major payment sources. She suggested setting aside funds to prepare for recoupment and noted an extension of timely filing for claims due to these issues. pete pointed out that the timely filing issue might need to be revisited if the claim reprocessing issues are not resolved by September 30th.

Minimum Staffing Rule Submission Progress

pete discussed the submission of the minimum staffing rule to the Office of Budget Management, a crucial step in the federal rule proposal process. He noted that the rule's finalization could occur anytime, with speculation leaning towards an April to May timeline. pete highlighted the potential for interested parties to request meetings with the Office of Budget Management to express their opinions. He also mentioned that the rule's content will not be publicly available until the Office of Budget Management finishes its review and sends it back to the relevant agency. Lastly, pete discussed

potential accommodations for rural providers and the possibility of altering the requirements for LP ends and nursing assistants.

Legal Strategies and Upcoming Mediation

pete discussed the current legal strategies, focusing on a bill in the House that several organizations, including Ohca, have signed on to. He mentioned that the bill is expected to be marked up and may have a good chance of passing, but it's unlikely to be passed before the election. pete also shared that Aka intends to file legal action within 30 days of the finalization of the rule. He then moved on to discuss the litigation in the State of Ohio, mentioning that the Supreme Court of Ohio has directed the parties to engage in mediation, with a meeting scheduled for the following week.

Private Room Applications and State Plan Amendment Updates

pete discussed the status of the private room application process, which opened on Friday and has attracted a significant number of applicants. He reported that as of Monday morning, there were 775 category one applications and 228 category two applications, totaling more than the number of certified skilled nursing facilities in Ohio. pete encouraged potential applicants to submit their applications as there might still be room. He also noted the lack of a solid date for the State Plan Amendment filing and addressed rumors about retroactive payments starting from April 1st. pete concluded by stating that while he believed retroactive payments were unlikely, it was important to be prepared for all possibilities.

Price Negotiations and Healthcare Guidelines

pete and Joe discussed the potential for a two-party meeting related to price point negotiations or mediation. pete expressed uncertainty about the state's involvement but believed it was likely necessary for both parties to participate. The conversation also touched on the role of the mediator and the potential for the meeting to proceed even if one side is not interested in negotiating. Additionally, pete raised concerns about stretcher transport providers in the greater Columbus area and referred to CDC guidelines for Covid and RSV flu. He emphasized that the CDC guidelines for the general public do not apply to healthcare settings and healthcare workers still need to follow the May 2023 guidelines. pete discussed the potential changes to healthcare guidelines, particularly regarding assisted living, and the importance of being aware of facility policy if healthcare guidelines do not apply. He also mentioned the need for facilities to adjust their policies accordingly. pete further discussed the new vaccine guidance from the CDC and asked for members to inform him of any changes or updates.

Covid-19 Outbreak Prevention Strategies

Kim from Joshua Tree raised concerns about a Covid-19 outbreak in her nursing home, which she believed was caused by a visit from a church group. In response, pete suggested strategies to prevent future outbreaks, such as educating visitors about the

risks and possible symptoms of Covid-19, screening visitors, and sharing general public guidelines with them. He emphasized that while they can't completely prevent visitors, they can implement more assertive measures to reduce the risk of future outbreaks.

Next steps

- Matrix care users need to review bulletins sent on almost a daily basis and prepare for disconnection from Change Healthcare.
- Providers should check their claims for any issues and request reports of claims that have not been processed.
- Providers should plan for potential delays and cash flow issues due to the change issue and the Medicaid recruitment issue.
- Providers should prepare for the timely filing extension for claims with a date of service or inpatient discharge date of January 25th or later.
- Providers should monitor the progress of the minimum staffing rule and prepare for potential changes in staffing requirements.
- Providers should continue to ramp up their legal and congressional strategies in response to the minimum staffing rule.

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