

Meeting summary for OHCA NF Member Call (04/01/2025)

Quick recap

Erin discussed ongoing issues with Medicaid payments and the implementation of multi-factor authentication for accessing PNM, emphasizing the importance of setting up MFA as soon as possible. Pete discussed the state budget, the implementation of the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM), and the deadline for the completion and submission of the 855, a forms as revised with the attachment for the skilled attachment, a. Debbie provided updates on the federal budget reconciliation process, the recent layoffs at HHS, and the impact of these changes on their services.

Next steps

- Providers to monitor remits in April closely for additional recoupment activity and report any balance forward recoupments to OHCA.
- Providers to notify OHCA if they receive reports showing potential recoupments from Medicaid.
- Providers to review and implement considerations for PDPM assessments as outlined in Tammy Cassidy's document, focusing on nursing, non-therapy ancillaries, and speech language pathology components.
- Providers to prepare and submit revised 855A forms with Attachment A for skilled nursing facilities by mid-April, ahead of the May 1st deadline.
- Providers to review and update elopement policies and procedures, including regular checks, alarm responses, and code changes for secured units.
- OHCA to continue advocating for amendments to the state budget bill, particularly regarding the private room issue.
- OHCA to monitor and update members on the progress of the state budget bill through the House and Senate processes.
- OHCA to continue pressuring Aetna Better Health of Ohio to resolve issues with private room add-on payments.

Summary

Medicaid Payment Issues and MFA

Erin discussed ongoing issues with Medicaid payments, including incorrect remittance advice reports and potential overpayments. She also mentioned issues with managed care plans, such as Amerihealth Caritas and CareSource, which have been causing problems with private room add-ons. Erin urged members to monitor their remits closely and to report any issues. She also mentioned that the Ohio Department of Medicaid is implementing multi-factor authentication for accessing PNM.

MFA Setup and Budget Concerns

Erin emphasized the importance of setting up MFA as soon as possible to avoid potential issues. Pete discussed the state budget, highlighting that the House Finance Committee accepted a substitute budget bill. He expressed concern about the removal of language regarding read issues and the introduction of a provision limiting private rooms to 5,000. Pete also mentioned that the Senate is starting to have hearings on the bill. He encouraged questions about the budget process.

PDPM Implementation and Submission Deadline

Pete discussed the implementation of the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) for rates starting January 1, 2026. He emphasized the importance of preparing for PDPM, as the assessments done on Medicaid residents will be relevant for the rate calculation. Pete also mentioned that the nursing component, along with non-therapy ancillaries and speech language pathology components, could be used in a blend. He recommended focusing on all components for the preparation of MDS or Medicaid residents. Pete also clarified that Ohio facilities with PA. One Determination Methodology would continue to be rugs until 7, 1, or as long as Osas still in place. He warned that the deadline for the completion and submission of the 855, a forms as revised with the attachment for the skilled attachment, a, remains May 1st. Pete encouraged everyone to prepare for the submission in advance to avoid potential system flaws.

Federal Budget Reconciliation Updates

Debbie provided updates on the federal budget reconciliation process. She noted that no agreement has been reached between the House and Senate, with the Senate considering a different approach to budget resolution. The Senate is considering extending tax cuts without finding savings to offset them, which may require increasing the debt limit. The Senate is also considering creating a budget resolution with different instructions for House and Senate committees. Debbie expressed concerns about potential cuts to Medicaid and emphasized the importance of advocacy. She announced that HCA will be hosting a Congressional briefing in June, inviting all attendees to join and share their stories.

HHS Layoffs and Service Impact

Debbie discussed the recent layoffs at HHS, which affected around 10,000 employees. She noted that CMS, which deals with the majority of their services, was only looking at 300 job cuts. The restructuring of agencies and the reduction of regional offices were also discussed. Debbie mentioned that the impact of these changes on their services was not yet clear, but they would continue to monitor the situation. She also mentioned a lawsuit filed by some State Attorney generals against CDC, which could potentially impact jobs at the state level.

Federal Update and Elopement Incidents

Debbie provided an update on the Federal update, and Heidi discussed the 4th quarter of 2020 four's Ij bulletin, highlighting a significant issue with elopement incidents. Heidi emphasized the importance of reviewing policies and procedures to prevent such incidents, as they have become high-profile news stories. Pete ended the conversation, encouraging attendees to raise any questions or topics for future discussions.

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