Meeting summary for OHCA NF Member Call (05/27/2025)

Quick recap

The meeting covered updates on the state budget process and legislative matters affecting skilled nursing facilities, including discussions about Senate substitute bills and potential impacts on provider taxes and Medicaid funding. The group addressed compliance issues related to Medicaid fee-for-service patients and hospital exemptions, while also reviewing upcoming webinars and CE certificates from the annual convention. Various advocacy efforts were discussed, including letters to state senators and upcoming Congressional briefings, along with concerns about rate increases and budget reconciliation at both state and federal levels.

Next steps

- OHCA members to check their email for CE certificates from ohca@showcare.com or access them through the OHCA website by July 10th.
- OHCA members to attend webinars on recoupments: one for billers on May 24th at 1 PM and another for financial managers on May 25th at 1 PM.
- OHCA team to continue monitoring and advocating regarding the federal budget reconciliation bill, particularly concerning provider taxes and potential impacts on Ohio's Medicaid budget.
- OHCA members to consider writing letters to the editor targeting state senators regarding the budget reconciliation bill.
- OHCA members to ensure compliance with new requirements for physician signatures on hospital exemption forms for PASRR, including using the actual form or properly incorporating the required language in discharge orders.

Summary

Weekly Skilled Nursing Updates

Pete welcomed attendees to the weekly skilled nursing facility member call, noting lighter attendance due to the adjusted timing. He mentioned that updates would be more concise this week, following a detailed overview from the previous week due to a convention. Pete highlighted several issues to be discussed, including one that was front of mind for both him and the attendees, but the transcript ends before the specific issues are detailed.

State Budget Process Update

The meeting focused on the status of the state budget process, where Pete explained that the Senate substitute bill was delayed until next week, though the June 12th floor vote date remains unchanged. Debbie noted that there will be a short turnaround between receiving the substitute bill and the deadline for amendments to the Omnibus Bill. The group decided to submit written testimony instead of participating in

current Finance Committee hearings, as they want to maintain their positions on skilled nursing facility issues that were previously shared with Senate staff and the Medicaid Committee.

CE Certificates and Recoupment Updates

Heidi announced that CE certificates for the annual convention are now available for those who scanned in and out, with instructions provided on how to access them via email or the OHCA website. Erin discussed upcoming webinars on recoupments, one for billers and another for financial managers, addressing issues with multiple remits and aging. Pete noted that while the Department of Medicaid has been responsive to concerns about recoupment processes, they are still awaiting written confirmation on future procedures to prevent unexpected recoupments. Debbie mentioned the ongoing budget reconciliation process at the federal level, which has been a topic of discussion for several months.

Ohio Medicaid Bill Advocacy Update

Debbie discussed the House's passage of the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," which includes provisions on provider taxes, work requirements, and Medicaid funding. She expressed concerns about the impact of the provider tax language on Ohio's state budget, particularly regarding hospital and managed care taxes, which could affect skilled nursing rates. Debbie mentioned ongoing advocacy efforts, including a Congressional briefing in two weeks and meetings with Ohio's senators and representatives. She also noted that the bill maintains a 10-year moratorium on minimum staffing requirements and does not include an across-the-board reduction in Federal matching rates for the expansion population.

Budget and Medicaid Policy Updates

Debbie reported that the House version of the budget reconciliation bill did not include certain provisions, but changes are expected in the Senate. Pete mentioned that letters to the editor targeting State senators were sent to administrators of skilled nursing facilities, with responses already coming in. Diane discussed a significant increase in the use of hospital exemptions for Medicaid fee-for-service patients, explaining new requirements for physician signatures and the need to ensure compliance with these rules.

Medicaid Funding Compliance Discussion

The meeting focused on compliance and legislative matters related to Medicaid funding for skilled nursing facilities. Diane warned about potential compliance issues and offered support for those needing assistance. Pete addressed a question from Joe Abraham about how legislators are accounting for a potential rate increase due to a mandamus ruling, noting that while the Department of Medicaid's budget projections seemed higher than expected, no specific funding was guaranteed for such an increase. The conversation ended with a reminder to check news bytes for updates.

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