MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND PATIENT PROTECTION

Meeting of January 11, 2017

MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION

JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
Health Policy Commission
50 Milk Street, 8th Floor
Boston, MA

Docket: Wednesday, January 11, 2017, 9:00 AM

PROCEEDINGS

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission's (HPC) Quality Improvement & Patient Protection (QIPP) Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at the HPC's offices, 50 Milk Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA.

Members present included Dr. Wendy Everett, Dr. Carole Allen, Mr. Tom Foley, and Undersecretary Alice Moore, designee for Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Dr. Martin Cohen was not present.

The meeting notice and agenda can be found here.
The presentation from the meeting can be found here.

In the absence of Mr. Cohen, Dr. Everett called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM and offered a brief introduction.

ITEM 1: Approval of minutes from November 30, 2016

Dr. Everett asked for a motion to approve the minutes from a joint meeting of QIPP and the Care Delivery and Payment System Transformation Committee held on November 30, 2016. Dr. Allen motioned to approve the minutes. Undersecretary Moore seconded. Committee members voted unanimously to approve the minutes, as presented.

ITEM 2: Presentation of Proposed Regulation Governing the Office of Patient Protection

Dr. Everett stated that the proposed final regulation governing the Office of Patient Protection (OPP) had undergone a thorough public comment process. She introduced Ms. Lois Johnson, HPC General Counsel, and Mr. Steve Belec, Director of the Office of Patient Protection, to review the regulation.

Dr. Everett asked whether the Committee would be asked to vote on the regulation at the day's meeting. Ms. Johnson responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Johnson provided background on the regulation as well as an overview of the regulatory development process. For more information, see slides 7-8.

Mr. Belec provided a summary of public comment relating to the regulation. For more information, see slides 9-10.

Mr. Belec provided a brief overview of next steps for the regulation. For more information, see slide 11.

Noting the anticipated effective date of the regulation, Dr. Everett asked for clarification on the timeline for the reporting template outlined in the regulation. Ms. Johnson responded that staff plans to release the template in mid-February. She noted that carriers are already collecting the requisite data. Ms. Johnson stated that the template will help to ensure that the information is properly reported to the Office of Patient Protection.

Mr. Belec noted that the HPC will receive data for the full 2017 calendar year in 2018.

Dr. Everett asked whether the HPC is able to receive any data earlier than 2018 to better understand this issue. Ms. Johnson responded that the HPC will continue to work with carriers to test the templates, but that she did not anticipate any formal reporting prior to 2018. She noted that carriers requested to link this new reporting process with existing annual reporting to the Commonwealth.

Mr. Foley asked when the annual reporting takes place. Ms. Johnson responded that carriers report to OPP in April each year. She noted that they report to the Division of Insurance (DOI) on parity annually in July. Ms. Johnson stated that the new reporting in this regulation would be collected concurrently with the DOI reporting in July.

Dr. Everett asked for any additional questions or comments from the Committee. Seeing none, she asked for a motion to approve the proposed final regulations and move them to the full Board for consideration.

Dr. Allen motioned to approve the regulation. Undersecretary Moore seconded. Committee members voted unanimously to move the regulation to consideration by the Board.

ITEM 3: Adjournment

Dr. Everett asked if there were any members of the public who had comments. None were heard. Dr. Everett adjourned the meeting at 9:18AM.