

Minutes

Public Act 101-0461 Working Group

Development of a Coding Solution

September 9, 2020

2:30 PM- 3:30 PM

Locations:

CALL-IN ONLY

Call-in Information

Phone Number: 1-312-535-8110

Access Code: 133 141 2095

I. Welcome

Kate Morthland welcomed members and guests to the Coding Working Group. Morthland went over guidelines while moving forward on a technological platform.

II. Introductions

Morthland asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

Members in Attendance:

Aaron Winters

Daniel Klopfenstein

Heather O'Donnell

Patrick Phelan

Guests in Attendance:

Jay Shattuck/ Humana

Patrick Besler/ HCSC

Laura Minzer/ Illinois Life and Health

Kevin Smith/ Health Alliance

Carol Trosinski/ United Heath

Leslie/ INS companies

Melissa McCabe/ Quartz

Mark Fagan/ Thresholds

III. Minutes

Morthland referred to the minutes from the past meeting that was attached to the agenda.

Patrick Phelan motioned to approve the minutes.

Arron Winters seconded the motion.

There were no objections.

The minutes were approved.

IV. Discussion of Final Coding Solution

Morthland reminded the members of the next steps established from the previous meeting:

- O'Donnell and Winters both agreed that one more meeting would be sufficient to finalize the codes. Both parties agreed that two to three weeks would be sufficient time to complete this work.
- Morthland opened the discussion to group members regarding finding a possible coding solution.
- Heather O'Donnell presented materials provided to the group and guests regarding possible coding solutions. O' Donnell explained is a restatement of what Aaron Winters and the Chamber put together. O'Donnell explained that everyone understands that the group has to work with existing codes.
- Winters provided feedback to O'Donnell's recommendations. Winters explained that he did not receive much carrier feedback by the time of the meeting, but the Chamber is ready to provide feedback. Winters thanked O'Donnell for providing recommendations. Winters explained that he understood the intent of the recommendations, but explained that the existing recommendation might create some unintended issues. Winters explained that having primary and secondary recommendations might not capture all carriers that must comply with these codes. Winters also explained of a potential enforcement issue. There is no regulatory enforcement if a carrier cannot utilize the codes provided in the recommendation. Winters mentioned specific language should stay with contracting between the carrier and the provider.
- O'Donnell explained that Winter's concerns would be alleviated by a simple wordsmithing of the document provided. Winters stated that this could assist in getting closer to a final solution to the objective.
- O'Donnell raised concerns regarding CPT codes. The carriers are required to follow the guidelines of timelines with the CPT codes, but the CPT codes do not match up with the model.

- Winters explained the intent of the statute. Winters explained that the statute is clear on reimbursement. Rather, the codes are for the enforcement.
- O'Donnell responded that the guidelines for use of the CPT code is clear, and the encounter is a once a month encounter. However, it is not consistent with the statute. O'Donnell explained that all parties have the same intent.
- Patrick Phelan agreed with O'Donnell on shared intent. Phelan explained that from a provider perspective, providers would like to see some simplicity, while understanding that no code will be all encompassing.
- Mark Fagan mentioned that from the point of the provider, it is helpful to have the code options. For example, if we are working with companies XYZ and each one is using a different code, that makes it really hard on the provider. We know this isn't ideal, but this is what is included.
- Winters explained that commercial insurance is regulated industry by many different regulatory authorities. Meaning, the more specific the code sets, the more unintended consequences. The statute says it needs to be covered. There will be a lot left up to contract negotiations, but industry doesn't want to get into antitrust issues.
- O'Donnell explained that the Group doesn't intend extend the authority of what the Group was tasked to do. O'Donnell explained that she understood the concerns regarding pigeon holding other carriers.

V. Next Steps

- Winters will collect information from the carrier and wordsmith O'Donnell's recommendations.
- Morthland will send out an availability poll in order to schedule another supplemental meeting to finalize a possible coding solution.

VI. The meeting adjourned at 3:03P.M.