
**CURB
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2012**

PRESENT:

Board: Patricia Berry, MPH, Delores Burroughs-Biron, MD, Ann Goering, MD, William Minsinger, MD, John Mathew, MD, Paul Penar, MD,

DVHA Staff: Daljit Clark (moderator), Bill Clark, Jennifer Herwood, Susan Mason

Absent: David Butsch, MD, Richard Wasserman, MD, Michel Benoit, MD, Norman Ward, MD

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Draft minutes from 9/12/12

CONVENE: Daljit Clark convened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Announcements – Patricia Berry, MPH

Dr Farber has resigned his position as DVHA Medical Director. His contract ended on 10/1/12 and he has decided to return to his home in California. DVHA will be hiring two positions, Chief Medical Officer and Medical Director. The search committee consists of staff from DVHA and UVM and will be conducting interviews for both positions. The Chief Medical Officer will possibly be the moderator for CURB.

3.0 Review of Minutes:

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

4.0 Gold Card Status/Implementation – Bill Clark

At the July 11, 2012 board meeting, CURB had approved awarding Gold Cards to providers who have 100 or more radiology referrals with a 3% or less denial rate in 12 months. It was agreed that data would be reviewed annually. However, Bill reported an oversight in that meeting. The above gold card criteria had been based on data for an 18 month period not 12 months. Therefore, when we ran the data there were no providers who have had 100 or more referrals with a 3% or less denial rate in 12 months. We can either keep the recommendation at 12 months but there will not be any providers who meet the criteria or change it to 100 or more referrals with a 3% or less denial rate in an 18 month period.

**CURB
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2012**

Gold Cards will be effective 1/1/2013. The process has been written up and the letters will go out with the Commissioner's signature by early December.

Board Member Discussion/Suggestions

- Board Members made a motion to amend the July, 2012 minutes to note that the data was for 18 month period rather than 12 months.
- The CURB recommendation would be amended to any provider with 100 or more referrals and a 3% or less denial rate in an 18 month period.

Action Item: None

5.0 TENS Update – Susan Mason – Powerpoint Presentation

A brief summary was provided on the TENS utilization and procedural issues. Medicare is no longer covering TENS for chronic low back pain except when part of a clinical trial. A review of the literature reveals a large body of conflicting evidence on the efficacy of TENS. The CURB felt that TENS can be useful, particularly if a decrease in pain medication use can be demonstrated.

Per CURB's suggestions DVHA has decided to do the following:

- Extend the rental period for TENS to collect data
- Use a new provider documentation tool to be completed by the therapist/treating physician to demonstrate the efficacy of the device for the beneficiary.

The new documentation tool for the provider's office will decrease the amount of staff time needed to work on TENS authorizations and will ensure that appropriate documentation is received to authorize services.

Board Member Discussion/Suggestions:

- The board would like to see the documentation tool.
- It is important to share the data on electrodes with the providers
- Tools that requires extra work will not be used
- Rent TENS units for 6 months prior to purchase

Action Item: Review documentation tool with CURB.

**CURB
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2012**

6.0 Oregon Health & Science University Overview – Daljit Clark

DVHA engaged OHSU to help create a set of principles and to guide DVHA's benefit design decision making process to determine services that are clinically effective and cost effective. OHSU held a one day workshop at DVHA with key internal and external stakeholders to assist with developing a framework and set of principles to guide DVHA's benefit design decision-making process to achieve an optimal balance between resources and covered services. After the principles have been finalized, they will be vetted through the CURB and DUR boards. The principles will be presented at the next meeting. DVHA is working with OHSU to finalize the plan.

Action: Board Members were asked to share how they measure outcomes for their practice at the next board meeting.

7.0 Future Topics – Board Members

- Home Sleep Study – VT Medicaid spends around \$600,000/ year
- Use of Aspirin vs. Coumadin for Total Knee Replacement

Adjournment – CURB meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Next Meeting

January 16, 2013

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Department of Vermont Health Access, Williston, VT