
CURB
Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2011

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PRESENT

Board: Michel Benoit, MD, Paul Penar, MD, David Butsch, MD, Delores Burroughs-Biron, MD, Richard Wasserman, MD, John Mathew, MD, Norman Ward, MD, Adam Kunin, MD, William Minsinger, MD

DVHA Staff: Michael Farber, MD (Medical Director, DVHA; moderator), Lori Collins (DVHA), Daljit Clark (DVHA), Danielle Delong (DVHA), Jennifer Herwood (DVHA)

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Draft minutes from 5/18/11

CONVENE: Dr. Farber convened the meeting at 6:36 pm.

1.0 Announcements

Meet every two months with the next meeting on September 21, 2011.

DVHA has the ability to run more data to determine if there is overutilization in the Vermont Medicaid program.

A follow up on the transportation presentation will be provided to the board members at the September meeting.

- An itemized breakdown of the transportation program
- Information on the new bus pass program
- Information on CMS mandated transportation services.

2.0 Review of Minutes-Dr. Michael Farber

The May 18, 2011 minutes were reviewed and accepted by the CURB members.

3.0 General Pediatric and Specialists Referrals- Dr. Wasserman

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DVHA sent an email prior to the meeting with articles regarding pediatric and specialist referrals to board members.

Dr. Wasserman proposed looking at the data for two specific diagnosis codes that are sent to a pediatric gastroenterologist for a work up that generally could be managed by pediatricians.

- How many times were patients seen by the PCP before they were referred to a the specialist?
- How many had multiple repeated work ups by the specialist
- Are there regional differences in utilization of specialists?
- How does this translate into cost savings?
- Look at provider referral trends.
- Did referral to the specialist result in duplication of diagnostic services?

4.0 Sleep Study

Dr. Farber provided a Power point presentation with data for sleep studies which included the following topics:

- Utilization
- Adults vs. Children
- Recipients with CPAP or BIPAP
- Recipients with Surgery
- Number of Days between sleep study evaluations and trial of CPAP or BiPAP
- Discussion

The board would like data on combined studies, home studies and the number of patients diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea following the studies. DVHA will research other state Medicaid programs regarding data on sleep studies.

5.0 ER Visits Greater than 12

Dr Farber presented data on beneficiaries with ER visits greater than 12 to include:

- Top Diagnosis
- Utilization Summary

The board members asked the following questions:

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- What should be done with opiate seekers that make frequent ER visits?
- Did these beneficiaries leave the ER with opiates?
- How many prescriptions did these beneficiaries get at the ER?
- How many of these people received imaging studies?
- What was the cost of these visits?
- What was the final result regarding the problem generating the ER visit (e.g., how many had surgery following abdominal pain)?
- How many were treated in the ER with meds but did not leave with a prescription?
- What are the demographics of Medicaid beneficiaries with frequent ER visits?

6.0 Future Topics

The DVHA Transportation Policy will be presented at the September CURB meeting.

Adjournment – CURB meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next Meeting

September 21, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Department of Vermont Health Access, Williston, VT