
CURB
Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2010

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PRESENT

Board: David Butsch, MD, Michel Benoit, MD, Molly Hastings, MD, Adam Kunin, MD, Delores Burroughs-Biron, MD, Paul Penar, MD, William Minsinger, MD

DVHA Staff: Michael Farber, MD (Medical Director, DVHA; moderator), Daljit Clark (DVHA), Ramona Godfrey (DVHA), Danielle Delong (DVHA)

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Draft minutes from 11/15/10
- Wound VAC Data
- Categories of Service data
- Out-of-State (OOS) cost analysis
- Out-of-state case review

CONVENE: Dr. Farber convened the meeting at 6:40 pm.

1.0 Introductions

Introductions were made around the table.

2.0 Review of Minutes-Dr. Michael Farber

The November 17, 2010 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

3.0 Vermont Medicaid Demographic Data

Dr. Farber provided a power point presentation on the Categories of Service; a breakdown of what Medicaid has paid for certain services in 2007, 2008 and 2009 to inform the Board where Medicaid dollars are spent. Dr. Farber will investigate the origin of several confusing values noticed by Board members.

4.0 Presentation of out-of-state Data and Cost

- **Presentation of recent orthopedic case**
- **Discussion**
- **Recommendations**

Dr. Farber gave a presentation of a recent orthopedic case that had resulted in a Medicaid beneficiary going to an out-of-state provider for services and eventual

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surgery for a procedure which could have been performed in Vermont. Dr. Farber queried the Board for ideas on how or if Medicaid should limit care to out-of-state facilities.

Dr. Penar felt that DVHA should be more restrictive and that beneficiaries that go out-of-state for elective procedures should require PA. He noted that DHMC has a contract with Beth Israel Deaconess for certain services and that DHMC, a non-VT provider, has no incentive to know what is available in Vermont.

Dr. Burroughs-Biron agreed and suggested criteria be outlined for OOS elective care and to require PA for these services. She added that primary care physicians need to inform patients that the services are available in VT and will require prior authorization or will not be reimbursed when provided out of state.

Dr. Hastings also believes that PA should be required for referrals out of state. She said this is standard for all other insurers.

Dr. Kunin questioned what filters should be in place for OOS services and OOS providers. He also suggested the DVHA consider canceling all provider numbers for out of state providers unless they are emergency providers. In transitioning, DVHA could provide beneficiaries with established OOS relationships extra visits to phase in their relocation to VT for care.

Dr. Minsinger commented that VT beneficiaries should be able to receive care OOS. He disagrees with two tiers of health care and believes that all patients should be sent to the best available provider.

Dr. Benoit agrees with the PA process and when the requesting provider asks for OOS care, the provider must state that the care can not be provided in VT.

Dr. Butsch agreed with Dr Minsinger that beneficiaries should be able to access OOS care even if the service is available in VT; that provider quality is important.

5.0 Presentation of VAC System data- Tabled for January CURB meeting.

- **Discussion**
- **Recommendations**

6.0 Summary of Future Suggested Areas of Focus

- **Additional Areas**
- **Request for data January 2011**

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Dr. Farber asked the Board if they had ideas which areas they would like to pull data and discuss in future meetings.

Dr. Penar would like to discuss the wound vac (NPWT), and perhaps look into requiring a certification process for using the wound vac. A presentation of the V.A.C. system was on the agenda for this meeting, but due to time constraints, it was tabled for the next meeting. In January, Dr. Farber will present current DVHA PA criteria for initial and continuation of wound vac treatment.

Dr. Minsinger would like to see the geographic data of where beneficiaries go out of state (facilities and providers) and what services are provided to them.

Dr. Benoit would also like to see the data for OOS inpatient care and if the care was elective or urgent.

Dr. Butsch would like to see data on ambulance usage and data on other patient transportation in general.

Dr. Kunin mentioned drug costs: according to our data (reviewed earlier), even a small cut in drug costs would produce a large savings.

There was also discussion regarding “Personal Care Services”: what they include, are they medically valid, who oversees these services, and who reimburses for them.

7.0 Schedule of Meetings Jan-March 2011

Meetings are scheduled for January 19, February 16, and March 16, 2011.

8.0 Additional input from CURB Tabled

Adjournment – CURB meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next Meeting

January 19, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Department of Vermont Health Access, Williston, VT