



Meeting Notes: November 17, 2006

Members Present: Ronald Bowman, M.D., Chair; Timothy Keenan, M.D., Vice-chair; Brad Lorber, M.D.; Frank Prideaux, D.C.; Gary Rischitelli, M.D.; Franklin Wong, M.D.; Tom Williams, P.T.; Chloe Oliver, City of Portland;

Members Absent: Pam DeVisser, F.N.P.; Linda Olsen, SAIF; Hans Carlson, M.D.; Maria Carraher, Injured Worker Rep.

WCD committee staff present: Holly Mercer, Debra Buchanan, Juerg Kunz, Nathan Johnson (IMD)

1. Approve/Edits of prior meeting notes:

Prior meeting notes dated September 11, 2006. Draft minutes were approved without edits.

2. Medical Quality Initiative Update: *Holly Mercer*

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Medical Reporting: The project team met with stakeholders on October 24, and November 6th. The project team has prepared draft data elements, an event table, an edit matrix, and a sequencing plan. The testing phase will commence in July, 2008. The project completion target date is March, 2007.

Pharmacy: The division project team is finalizing the data analysis and recommendations. Since MAC may review pharmacy issues in the future, one of the project team recommendations may be to provide MAC with expert resources, (e.g., consultants or pharmacy representatives, etc.) to address pharmacy issues. The project team also considered whether a MAC sub-committee for pharmacy and therapeutics should be formed. A completion date for the project and recommendations is scheduled for December.

Medical Provider Outreach: The division project team has inventoried current training processes and materials affecting the medical provider community. The team has created a draft revision of the health care provider guide and other brochures. Project completion date is scheduled for April, 2007.

There was a suggestion that the division look at the State of Washington's publication which gives CMEs to physicians. This could be an incentive for providers, while informing them of WC requirements.

3. Discuss how the Study Review Model will be developed for next meeting: *Debra Buchanan & Juerg Kunz*

The division is helping MAC draft a study review tool. Juerg created the first draft and explained that its format is based on another rating guide he had been given by Dr. Rischitelli. Once the rating tool is complete it could

help with other issues, like the upcoming issue of cervical artificial disc. The committee liked what Juerg had drafted.

The committee discussed the use of artificial discs over fusion.

Discussion on what significance FDA approval has on it? Just because it has FDA approval does not mean it is compensable here in Oregon. Comments were that the FDA had jurisdiction over the manufacturer but not over the Oregon physician and what he/she can do. Some felt we are past the experimental stage and so that cannot be used as a criteria.

Action Item: Dr. Keenen and Dr. Rischitelli will work on the study grading model that Juerg drafted and then go from there. The division will continue to work on this and then will email/send out the draft of the tool if it is ready before the next meeting.

It was suggested that we look at what the state of Washington has done. Their packet of studies are very good and extensive and would be a good resource tool for us to work from.

4. Legislative Issues: Review & discuss Nurse Practitioner Sunsets, and MLAC Care Provider Study Summary, and related questions from the Administrator. *Holly Mercer*

Nurse Practitioner Study: WCD will be recommending removal of the sunset which will make the law permanent. There is not evidence there has been a fiscal impact to the system since the law changed in 2007. But it appears there has been a positive impact on worker access to treatment.

Care Provider Study: A review of the study and the information related to it was presented to the committee with the use of several handouts. Under the current system different time frames for treatment are applied to different providers, according to when the 30 day allowance begins. Standardizing the timeframe for all providers in a claim may be an option.

The Notice to Injured Worker Workgroup handout compliments the 801 form. A draft of a new attachment that has been approved by stakeholders was provided to the committee. The purpose is to help the injured worker understand that they do have responsibilities and choices and what those are.

The committee discussed several areas concerning physician assistants including:

- their responsibilities,
- the difference between them and a nurse practitioner,
- the current limitations on physician assistants,
- who is responsible for the supervision of the physician assistant, etc.

A full discussion on this study and issues surrounding it will be reviewed by MLAC.

There is a possibility that a bill may be presented this session which would allow podiatrists full attending physician status. Currently, the limit of what a podiatrist is allowed to do can be dependant upon each hospital. There were comments that some hospitals allow a podiatrist to do complex ankle surgeries and others would even allow them to amputate a foot.

Action Item: Debra Buchanan will look to see if she can find the old MAC notes on podiatrists.

The committee was asked about their interest in reviewing the provider care study and commenting on this in order to give John Shilts more medical input on these issues, and potentially providing information to MLAC. The committee's medical expertise and experience would be very helpful in sorting through the issues. The

committee discussed the issue of enhanced interaction with MLAC. John Shilts values MAC's input and feels their input is helpful for him in MLAC discussion and would also be valuable to MLAC.

The next MLAC meeting is Thursday, December 7, 2006.(note: it was cancelled)

Action Item: The MAC committee was asked to email their thoughts or any other input to WCD. These responses would be given to John who would be utilizing the information for future plans.