



## **Medicaid Rate Review Public Meeting**

### **March 25, 2022 Minutes**

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

303 E. 17th Avenue, Denver, CO 80203

Webinar, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

A recording of this meeting is available at this [link](#).

### **1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Meeting Overview**

Eloiss Hulsbrink, Rate Review Stakeholder Relations Specialist, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

There were sufficient members for a quorum with 11 members participating. All individuals participated remotely, due to ongoing health and safety requirements regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Brian Pool of GPS introduced himself and his role in assisting with the facilitation of upcoming MPRRAC meetings.

#### **A. Members on Webinar/Phone**

Dixie Melton, Bill Munson, Kim Kretsch, Terri Walter, Tim Dienst, Melissa Benjamin, Bryana Mariscano, Christi Mecillas, Dan Soderlind, Venita Jenkins, and Rob Hernandez

#### **B. Department Staff Participants**

Eloiss Hulsbrink, Victoria Martinez, Jeff Laskey, Marli Firillo, Kevin Martin, Donna Kellow, Bettina Schneider, Amanda Villalobos, Kelly O'Brien

### **2. Meeting Minutes**

MPRRAC members discussed and voted on meeting minutes from the November 25, 2021 MPRRAC meeting.

The MPRRAC voted to approve the meeting minutes.

Request to have modify the process to release minutes earlier, include in the presentation.

Note on November minutes--Bill Munson says he was not present

### **3. Vice Chair Nomination**

Venita Jenkins self-nominated as vice chair, a majority approved.

#### **4. 2022 Rate Review Analysis Results**

##### **A. Physician Services - Cardiology**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

###### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

###### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had 2 questions or feedback about the Cardiology data.

- A committee member asked if there was a code for remote arrhythmia and/or devices that could be used remotely as a telehealth option replacing in-office visits for performing EKG tests, etc. Committee member said they would provide more information on the technology mentioned with Department staff for further investigation.
- A committee member noted that the member-to-provider ratios aren't adding up. Eloiss clarified that providers serve across multiple counties that can be categorized under multiple classifications.

##### **B. Physician Services - Cognitive capabilities Assessment**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

###### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

###### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

##### **C. Physician Services – Ear Nose & Throat (ENT)**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

###### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

###### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

##### **D. Physician Services – Gastroenterology**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**E. Physician Services – Health Education**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**F. Physician Services – Ophthalmology**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**G. Physician Services – Primary Care**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

A committee member asked if this data supports a transition to providing more telehealth services. Department staff responded that the ArcGIS map- provides a potential access metric, as required by statute.

A committee member commented that the Department should investigate the possibility of creating a benefit for home health and integrated health agencies, using community

paramedics, to enhance visits, pre-running laboratory services, EKGs and with telehealth, can we recreate a physician home visit, identify pulse, etc. The committee member noted that mobile labs have the potential to enhance access to care, especially in areas where members travel over one-hour to a provider on average.

## **H. Physician Services – Radiology**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

## **I. Physician Services – Respiratory**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

## **J. Physician Services – Vaccine**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

## **K. Physician Services – Vascular**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

#### **L. Physician Services – Women’s Health & Family Planning Services**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

##### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

Jack Teter, representing Planned Parenthood, asked for a rate increase for abortion services covered by Medicaid, adding that they use this code on approximately 10 service claims in a year. Since rates are as low as they were in 1990, this is a rarely reimbursed service, and the need for access is present. The Department confirmed that procedure codes 590, 591 and S001 are not under review in the current report, but staff will submit an independent rate setting request for these specific services.

##### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

#### **M. Physician Services – Other Services**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

##### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

##### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

#### **N. Dialysis – Facility & Professional Codes**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

##### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

##### ***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

#### **O. Laboratory & Pathology**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

##### ***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

A committee member noted that combining laboratory with pathology data presented a challenge to really understand. The Department acknowledged this challenge and is considering solutions; however, it is important to note that these services were previously reviewed together and remained together for cohesiveness across years of reporting.

A committee member asked why the data shows the panel size changing before the pandemic, was this related to policy changes at that time? Department staff noted this anomaly for further investigation.

**P. Eye/Vision Services**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**Q. Injections & Misc. J Codes**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**R. Outpatient Physical & Occupational Therapy (PT/OT)**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**S. Speech Therapy (ST)**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**T. Home Health PT/OT/ST**

The Department presented initial utilization data, including service descriptions, and population and location utilization trends.

***Stakeholder Feedback***

No stakeholder feedback was received.

***Committee Discussion***

The committee had no questions or feedback about the data.

**7. Next Steps and Announcements**

The Department confirmed the date for the next quarterly meeting in June and discussed the primary purpose of the meeting.

Brian Pool reiterated the need for additional interviews from Committee members to help inform how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of MPRRAC meetings. Indicated an additional hour would be added to the agenda to share general feedback from the interviews, and observations of this meeting.

**8. Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.**