Medical Services Review Board minutes, Aug. 10, 2017

Members present
Jeffrey Bonsell, chairman
Russell Gelfman
Erica Kuhlmann (by phone)
Sadie Altringer (by phone)
Kristy Hagen (by phone)
Beth Baker (by phone)
Matthew Monsein
Hans Thurmer
Darla Coss

Members absent
Robert Long
Brennan McAlpin
Robert Pandisco
Robin Peterson
Margaret Spartz
Lisa Hanselman
Natalie Haefner
Reed Pollack
Dan Wolfe

Alternates present
Elizabeth Alm
Laura Breeher
Kimberly Olson

Visitors present
Jo Ann White, CorVel
Ceil Jung, SFM

Staff members present
Ernest Lampe
Anita Hess
Ann Tart
Kate Berger
Ethan Landy
Lisa Wichterman
Jon Brothen

Call to order

The meeting of the Medical Services Review Board (MSRB) was called to order at 4 p.m. by Dr. Jeffrey Bonsell. Introductions were made and a quorum was met.

Approval of the minutes

Darla Coss noted her name was missing from the list of members present. A motion to approve the April 20, 2017, minutes with the correction was made by Erica Kuhlmann and seconded by Hans Thurmer. The board voted in favor and the motion carried.

Approval of agenda

A motion to approve the Aug. 10, 2017, agenda as presented was made by Sadie Altringer and seconded by Matthew Monsein. The board voted in favor and the motion carried.
Announcements and update

Chris Leifeld

The Legislature passed a bill that addresses the Medicare PC Pricer tool for inpatient hospital bills and requires payers, hospitals and clearinghouses to have a designated contact person to answer questions related to medical bills.

A bill that allowed first responders and other specific employees to claim post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a presumption passed in the Senate but not in the House. The bill was not vetted through the Workers’ Compensation Advisory Council (WCAC). The Legislature expects all workers’ compensation bills pass through the WCAC before the bills are presented for a vote at the Capitol. PTSD in the work environment will be discussed again at the next WCAC meeting.

Chris invited everyone to attend the one-day 2017 Workers’ Compensation Summit on Sept. 19, 2017 at the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus.

Business

Medical updates

Lisa Wichterman

Designated-contact employee legislation: Effective Nov. 1, 2017, each hospital, payer and clearinghouse must provide the contact information for a designated-contact employee. The designated-contact employee is responsible for answering questions from the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) about medical issues. The designated-contact employee must also attend training developed by DLI. Sign-up will be on DLI’s website.

Medical surgical, path lab, physical therapy and chiropractic conversion factors will increase by 0.2 percent Oct. 1, 2017. Independent medical examination (IME) fees will also increase by 0.2 percent Oct. 1, 2017.

The Medicare PC Pricer tool for determining the maximum payments for inpatient hospital bills for noncritical-access hospitals will be published on DLI’s website. For hospital discharge dates between May 31 and Sept. 30, 2017, use the 2016.1 version of the PC Pricer to determine payment amounts; for discharge dates Oct. 1, 2017, and after, use the 2017 PC Pricer tool.

Therapeutic injections

Dr. Ernest Lampe

The board reviewed and discussed the revised draft injection rule dated Aug. 10, 2017.

Discussion topics included: expanding the informed consent requirement; removing lytic and sclerosing injections from the radiating pain requirement; specifying who must perform the history and physical, and when it must be performed; changing the seven-day timeframe to one week to document the patient’s pain improvement; using standardized pain and function assessment tests; assessing improvement by telephone; replacing CT or MRI imaging requirements with imaging in general; and removing facet joint and facet nerve from imaging for needle placement.

Adjournment

Dr. Bonsell and board

Russell Gelfman moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Hans Thurmer. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Next meeting date: Oct. 12, 2017.
Agenda for next meeting

- Elections
- Therapeutic injections