

Medical Services Review Board
Jan. 20, 2011
minutes

Members present:

Beth Baker, M.D.
Greg Hynan, D.C.
Jody Ruppert, OTR/L
Jon Kipp, M.D, J.D
Glenda Cartney, R.N.
Rose Hatmaker
Robin Peterson, PT
Reed Pollack
Barbara Baum, MS PT
Kathi Hendrickson, R.N. *via phone*
Jon Talsness, M.D. *via phone*

Members absent:

Jeffrey Bonsell, D.C.
Andrea Trimble-Hart, CPCU
Andrew Schmidt, M.D.
Michael Goertz, M.D.
Philip Bachman, M.D.
David Schultz, M.D.

Staff members present:

Assistant Commissioner Gary Hall
William Lohman, M.D.
Lisa Wichterman
Dee Torgerson
Carey Demaris

Visitors present:

David C. Wulff, MNAJ
Suzanna Kennedy, MSIA
Dawn Carlson, MDT
Heather Keenan, MAPS

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairperson Beth Baker. A quorum was declared. Announcements were made and administrative information was given. Members and staff introduced themselves. New Assistant Commissioner Gary Hall introduced himself.

The Oct. 22, 2009, and the June 8, 2010, meeting minutes were reviewed. Dr. Jon Kipp made a motion to approve, seconded by Glenda Cartney. All voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

There were no additions to the agenda.

David Berry gave a PowerPoint presentation about the 2009 WCRI CompScope Report focusing on medical costs. The WCRI report compares workers' compensation costs in 16 participating states, including Minnesota.

Lisa Wichterman gave a report about compliance activity for the past year.

- There are two pending complaints about health care provider billing practices under review by the department. We can't release any more information until the investigation is complete.
- We referred a complaint about an IME provider to the Board of Medical Practice because DLI's jurisdiction is over treating health care providers.
- We sent a letter of instruction to a provider group that was not a certified managed care plan, after it told employees they had to receive care in the provider network.
- We issued two penalties against health care providers that did not timely file a health care report when requested by an insurer.
- We continue to write to health care providers that do not timely respond to requests for medical records or the health care provider report.

Dr. William Lohman reviewed MSRB membership and encouraged members to renew. The department recognizes its members are valuable and the board's input is highly regarded.

Lohman reported about the department's review of epidural steroid injections. He explained how the evidence-based medicine research is performed and what studies are used in the review. Preliminary results were presented for the categories of caudal, transforaminal, interlaminar and undifferentiated ESI. Lohman presented spreadsheets about the study reference sources, comments, study results and the study authors' conclusion regarding ESI. A spreadsheet about LESI selection and study relevance was reviewed by the board. Preliminary results were discussed. The study results are aligning with DLI's current treatment parameter rules. A full report should be available for the April meeting.

Possible future agenda items:

1. cervical epidurals;
2. facet injections;
3. artificial discs (Are studies available?);
4. treatment of RSD;
5. treatments that are causing disputes;
6. health care reforms affect on workers' compensation; and
7. review trends about medical care and how they may affect workers' compensation treatment parameters.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. by Chairperson Baker.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wichterman

Lisa Wichterman
Medical Policy Specialist