

Policy Committee Minutes
April 26, 2021
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Board Members Present: Claire Brockbank, Mike Conway, Adela Flores-Brennan, and Sharon O’Hara

Staff Present: Chelsey Bibeau, Brian Braun, Kelly Davies, Beth Deines, Bailey Dvorak, Kelly Guthner, Molly McClurg, Danny O’Neil, Emma Oppenheim, Carolyn Pickton, Ilana Rivera, Lisa Sevier, Nina Schwartz, Monica VanBuskirk, and Ezra Watland

I. Welcome and Introduction

Sharon O’Hara chaired the Policy Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., welcoming those in attendance.

The March Committee Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

II. HCPF Update

Staff from the Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (HCPF) provided an update to the Committee:

- New implementation of the online portal for Medicaid has been completed. This implementation automated the ability for members to voluntarily withdraw from their Medicaid benefits. Automating this once manual process will increase the ease of member’s ability to purchase a plan through the Connect for Health Colorado
- HCPF continues to work with the Marketplace to determine potential Medicaid eligibility through the Easy Enrollment program
- HCPF continues work around the public health emergency (PHE), specifically:
 - Unwinding the PHE
 - Revamping renewal process
 - Redesigning the PEAK online portal

III. DOI Update

Staff from the Division of Insurance (DOI) provided an update to the Committee:

- The following regulations have been issued:
 - Emergency Regulation 21-E-07: Concerning establishing a special enrollment period for enrollment in an individual health benefit plan (effective 4/12/21)

- Emergency Regulation 21-E-08: Concerning cost sharing reduction enhancements (out for public comment, not yet adapted)
- Emergency Regulation 21-E-09: Concerning consumer notification requirements for carriers regarding premium tax credit under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (out for public comment, not yet adapted)
- DOI will hold a virtual permanent rulemaking hearing on Tuesday, May 18, 2021
- Draft regulations and bulletins for informal public comment can be found [here](#)

Action Item

Connect for Health Colorado to include general information in outreach regarding changes to Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement (ICHRA) due to the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

IV. Current Legislation Potentially Impacting C4HCO

The Committee reviewed the [legislative update](#) including federal and state legislation and the [legislative tracker](#).

Colorado standardized benefit bill ([HB21-1232](#)) is currently in the Health and Insurance Committee in the Colorado House. The Marketplace is currently evaluating the impacts of this bill as it moves. Formal bill language will be introduced tomorrow, April 27, 2021. Staff will compose an analysis of HB21-1232 for the Board to determine Board stance.

Although the American Jobs Plan (AJP) and the American Families Plan (AFP) have not yet been passed, they were both approved to use the budget reconciliation process by the Senate Parliamentarian.

Action Item

Staff to provide the Board with material describing what has been established with ARP thus far.

V. Policy Roadmap

Staff presented ongoing [updates and decisions](#) on the Policy Roadmap. The current prioritized problem statements determined by the Policy Committee are listed in order from highest to lowest priority:

- Noticing
- Plan display
- Verifications
- Alignment with Medicaid

The problem statements for prioritization from the Board Advisory Group (BAG) include:

- The end of the PHE
 - The Policy Committee identified this work as a priority
 - Not included on updated Policy Roadmap but is a part of ongoing work
- Next steps on the end of PHE

- Partnership with HCPF continues
- The Marketplace will provide updates to the Board and BAG on progress and plans to make sure individuals losing their Medicaid will be transitioned over to Connect for Health Colorado seamlessly

Staff discussed auto-enrollment policy considerations. Auto-enrollment for Health Affairs would:

- Place uninsured individuals into health plans and let them opt out if they wish.
- Provide coverage to consumers who otherwise would not enroll because of cost concerns, difficulty navigating the application process, or other factors

Potential avenues for identification and enrollment include:

- Easy Enrollment/tax filing
- Termination for non-pay
- Unemployment offices
- Department of motor vehicles (DMV)

The Committee decided to prioritize auto-enrollment into the problem statements. The Committee recommends staff to complete more research and collect more data in order to determine how auto-enrollment will be prioritized.

VI. Public Comment

Public comment given by Daniela Gosselova, Broker.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon O'Hara
Policy Committee Chair