

Joint Health Care Committee (JHCC)

Notes

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

1:00pm – 3:00pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Unions:

- UNAC: Jill Dumesnil (JHCC Chair), Abel Bult-Ito, Melanie Arthur, ~~Tim Hinterberger~~ (Alternate)
- Local 6070: Charles Silva, Jeff Culley, Jason Roach, Shane Crawford (Alternate)
- FFA: ~~David Mattox, Greg Bean~~ (Alternate)

Management: Jonathan Lasinski, Luke Fulp, Ryan Buchholdt, ~~Jason Theis~~ (Alternate)

Staff Alliance: Monique Musick, Rachel Potter, ~~Brandon McKinney~~ (Alternate)

Ex-Officio: Memry Dahl, Heather Arana

Support Staff: Tanya Hollis, Uriah Nalikak, Jenn Clapp, Timothy Armbruster, Alex Slivka

Guests and Speakers: David Hinckley (Lockton), Ellen Izer (Premera), Dale Rutledge (Premera Pharmacy)

AGENDA

1:00 pm Call to order

Roll call

Approve draft agenda - approved

Approval of [notes from July 17, 2024](#) - approved

Topics for discussion and Reports/Review/Action:

New Business:

1:05 pm Chair report – nothing to report

1:10 pm Pharmacy Program Presentation – will be shared

Biosimilars are a rapidly growing sector – expected by 10X by 2029

Gene therapies also increasing rapidly, often for rare conditions

Pharmacy is generally about 1/3 of plan spend and of that about 40% are specialty

Q: stop loss either for gene therapy specifically or in general, Premera has shared a quote with UA

Express Scripts is the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) for Premera, but Premera has their own in-house policies implemented by ESI and approved by Premera's Therapeutics committee.

In order of spend, Inflammatory conditions, Diabetes, Cancer, MS, HIV, Skin conditions, Asthma, Attention Disorders, Depression, Heart Disease

GLP-1s: Mounjaro and Ozempic are the primary cost drivers, but clinical evidence shows effectiveness in glucose control and weight control in addition to a cardiovascular benefit.

Premera will not review GLP-1 products for weight loss without a diabetes diagnosis. Metformin is the drug of choice for that and has been around for over 20 years.

1:57 pm Executive Dashboard - FY24 End of Year

Inpatient admissions and length of stay are up

Largest claimants are #1 cost driver, followed by specialty drugs

If a member is charged for care that should be preventive, they should reach out to the provider for correction, and if it's not corrected, reach out to Premera and they should be able to fix it.

2:25 pm Member Comments

Memry Dahl: More than 10% increase last year in allowed charges over prior year. This committee needs to be poised to look at cost saving measures. Memry will be presenting at the audit and finance committee meeting at the BOR on September 5 about ideas. Pharmacy, health plan eligibility, and cost sharing will have to be considered.

Heather Arana: Wellness plan will be live October 1 and members will receive an email on that date.

2:30 pm Adjourn

Next Meeting: September 18, 2024