

Advisory Committee on Healthcare Innovation & Evaluation (ACHIEv)

Meeting Minutes for April 22, 2021

Members Present

Ron Wilcox, DC (Chair)
Mike Dowling, DC
John Meier
David Folweiler, DC
Stephen Thielke, MD (Vice-chair)
Andrew Friedman, MD
Kirk Harmon, MD
Lee Thomas
Louis Lim, MD

Members Not Present

Malcolm Butler, MD
Joe Kendo
Lisa Vivian
Neil Hartman

Members of the Public

Nicole Bennett, CHI
Tricia Daniel, WSIA
Taylor Ishikawa
Janice LeGros, COHE
Chay Piger, COHE
Terri Smith-Weller, UW
Maria Dakan, Valley Med
Jamie Hodge, COHE
Heidi Moser, COHE
Rachel Kaufman, COHE
Marti Bradley, COHE
Regine Neiders, Pacific Rehab
Bobbi Meins, Pacific Rehab
Gregory Carter
Debbie Cherry, UW

L&I Staff Present

Gary Franklin
Karen Jost
Jeana Weekley
Kelly Miller
Suzyn Daniel
Lyn McClendon
Vickie Kennedy
Kim Wallace
Nancy Vandermark
Ryan Guppy
Jennifer Rodriguez
Morgan Wear
Jason Fodeman
Marc Hobbs
Morgan Young
Aaron Hoffman
Sarah Holm
Cheri Ward
Jennine Griffo
Zach Gray
Diana Drylie
Emily Stinson
James Simonowski
Jessica Gomez
Katie Mangino
Megan Lemon
Rob Darin
Uriel Iniguez

Welcome

ACHIEv Chair Ron Wilcox called the meeting to order. The minutes from the January 2021 quarterly meeting were approved without changes. Dr. Wilcox also announced the ACHIEv members who had recently been reappointed to the committee.

COVID-19 Update – Cheri Ward

Cheri Ward informed the committee that as of the date of the meeting, the department had received 9053 COVID claims, 57% of which were filed by healthcare workers and eight of which involved fatalities. Around 9% of all COVID claims have been rejected, including all 44 claims filed for COVID vaccine reactions. The amount of COVID claims coming in had been declining since November 2020.

Legislative Update – Karen Jost and Kim Wallace

Karen Jost and Kim Wallace presented overviews of the following bills:

- ESSB 5190 – provides presumptive coverage for healthcare employees during a public health emergency
- ESSB 5115 – provides presumptive coverage for frontline workers during a public health emergency

Both of these bills waive the standard three-day waiting period for receiving benefits. They will become effective immediately once the governor signs them.

6440 IME Bill – Karen Jost

Karen Jost shared the history of the 6440 IME bill and the ongoing activities at L&I following the completion of the work group last fall. Staff updated the materials that outline the IME complaint process. They are also conducting exit surveys with outgoing IME examiners and retention surveys following the re-credentialing of current examiners

Catastrophic Nurse Case Management – Kim Wallace

Kim Wallace informed the committee that seven firms have been awarded new contracts to provide catastrophic nurse case management services. In May 2021, the L&I team will conduct a kick-off meeting with representatives from these firms to go over

key contract provisions and administrative processes/expectations. The initial term of these contracts is three years.

Telehealth Updates – Morgan Young

Dr. Young reminded the committee that the temporary telehealth policies implemented early in the pandemic are set to expire in July 2021. The UW evaluation of these policies will conclude in May or June 2021. Dr. Young then invited committee members to share their experiences with the expanded use of telehealth during the pandemic.

Healthy Worker Strategic Planning – Diana Drylie

After reviewing the history of the Healthy Worker program, Diana Drylie led the committee in a discussion of its themes, mission, vision, and unique value.

Planning for July 2021 – Ron Wilcox

Ron Wilcox presented potential agenda items for the July 2021 ACHIEv quarterly meeting. These included:

- Lumbar Spine Surgical Guideline update
- COVID-19 update
- Insurance Services Dashboard update
- Future of ACHIEv meetings – in-person or online?

Meeting adjourned at 11 AM.