

Industrial Insurance Medical Advisory Committee Meeting

Quarterly Meeting Minutes for **July 28th, 2022**

Prepared by: Molly Dutton, ONC

IIMAC Members Present

Jiho Bryson
Greg Carter
Andrew Friedman (Chair)
Laurie Gwerder
Monica Haines
Kirk Harmon (Vice-chair)
Chris Howe
Robert (Bob) Lang
Louis Lim
Linda Seaman
Stephen Thielke
Patricia Waring

IIMAC Members Absent

Mike Codsí
Jean-Christophe (JC) Leveque

L&I Staff and Presenters

Suzyn Daniel- L&I
Diana Drylie- L&I
Cherell Fisher – L&I
Gary Franklin – L&I
Lee Glass- L&I
Zach Gray- L&I
Jennine Griffo- L&I
Tammy Havner – L&I
Wyndi Herrera – L&I
Sarah Martin- L&I
Jason McGrew- L&I
Tiffany Meeks- L&I
Shauna Muendel – L&I

Shannon Pitts- L&I
Kim Wallace- L&I
Morgan Wear – L&I
Jeana Weekley- L&I
Morgan Young- L&I

Public Attendees

Debra Cherry – UW OEM Program
Christopher Alawode – UW OEM resident
Balaji Sridhar
Andreka Jasek – Pacific Rehabilitation Centers
Britt Millard-Hasting
Rachel Workman – Feller & Associates
Shari Fowler-Koorn – Comagine Health
Tricia Daniel – NurseWorks NW & WSIA
Deborah's iPhone [sic]
Susan Reynolds

I. Welcome, Ask for Public Comments, and Introductions (Andrew Friedman)

*Call to order at 1:09 pm

^^Quorum present

II. Safety Tip (Andrew Friedman)

Tips surrounding safe practices in extreme summer heat.

III. Approve Minutes (Andrew Friedman) From 04/21/2022

*First motion: Stephen Thielke

*Second motion: Greg Carter

^^No opposed/all approved

IV. Introduction of Shauna Muendel- Utilization Review Manager (Kim Wallace)

V. Summary from ACHIEv (Kim Wallace)

Summary:

ACHIEv highlights reviewed. See formal ACHIEv minutes for more detail.

VI. MLT Pilot Update (Zach Gray, Morgan Young) & Plans for Pain Psychologist (Gary Franklin)

Summary:

MLT pilot started in 2019 and is ongoing; applications still being accepted for enrolled providers. The end of the pilot will be around January 2024. Access to care has increased as a result of MLT enrollment, particularly rural care.

A full time position is being developed for a pain psychologist Associate Medical Director. Advertising for this position is going to be done as soon as possible (likely within the next 3-6 months).

VII. Healthy Worker Best Practices – Physical Medicine Project (Sarah Martin)

Summary:

Last fall, work rehabilitation guidelines were published and implementation is moving forward. One of the main changes is work conditioning services will become a specialized program similar to how work hardening services are. It will include improved communication and collaboration with the healthcare team using regular care conferences and a standardized discharge format. Estimated completed timeline for this integration is the end of 2023, with parameters on how the care would look (services provided, etc.) and how information is disseminated.

VIII. Provider Recognition Program (PRP) Pilot (Jeana Weekley)

Summary:

PRP pilot started accepting applications on 07/01/2022. The goal is to test all the operational aspects of the program prior to rolling out on a large scale. The program is designed to provide financial and non-financial incentives for providers who adopt L&I Occupational Health Best. An evaluation of the pilot is



expected to take place late in 2023. Participants must be fully credentialed L&I providers. Resources are available outlining the application and participation requirements.

IX. Utilization Review (Shauna Muendel, Shari Fowler-Koorn)

Summary:

Not all procedures or specialty visits require utilization review (UR), but those that do are processed by Comagine Health. There are usually between 50,000-60,000 utilization reviews each year. Reviews can be pre-service, ongoing, and/or retrospective. Timeliness of all reviews is monitored. There is a re-review improvement project currently, which is aimed at improving the efficiency of the UR process, particularly re-reviews. How a re-review is handled depends on what is involved (imaging, procedures, surgeries, etc.). Not all physician re-reviews necessarily require a peer-matched reviewer (e.g. a neurosurgeon for a back surgery).

X. Centers of Occupational Health & Education (COHE) Update (Morgan Wear)

New standard COHE contracts started 07/01/2022 (previous contract was started in 2013). All pre-existing COHEs were renewed as well as the addition of one more. COHEs are located throughout the State. The average annual new claims per year is about 100,000; there was a decrease early in the pandemic but rates are going back up to previous values again. Future projects include involving self-insured programs, connection between Accountable Communities of Health and aligning COHEs with other best practice programs.

XI. Opioid Prescribing in Older Adults- Bree Collaborative (Gary Franklin)

Opioid work at the Bree Collaborative was coming to an end until data disclosed ongoing issues related to opioid prescribing and outcomes in older adults. Issues exist for older adults even when taking opioids as-prescribed. The goals from this project all relate to safety and outcomes (improving both), including recommendations for providers. Recommendations have been developed for prescribing acute medications, chronic medications, de-prescribing/tapering and adjuvant treatment.

XII. Updates:

PCORI (Gary Franklin)

Current work was shared with opportunity for questions and discussion.

COVID-19 (Cherell Fisher)

As of this meeting, there have been >18,000 COVID claims so far in 2022 which is more than either 2020 or 2021. The claims are mostly health care workers. Fifty total fatal claims.

XIII. Agenda planning: More info on COVID statistics, including definitions especially about long COVID

Meeting adjourned at **5:00 pm**