

WYOMING HEALTHCARE COMMISSION
October 9, 2006
Meeting Notes
Casper

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Dixie Roberts, Chairman; Rod Barton, Barb Cohee, Larry Kirven, M.D., Lorraine Saulino-Klein, Jack Speight, Barb Rea, Cliff Root, Brent Sherard, M.D., Ken Vines

Absent: Rex O. Arney, Jack Glode, M.D., John H. Vandel.

Committee Members: John P. McBride, Rick Schum, Greg Gruman, Ph.D., Dan Perdue, Susie Pouliot.

WHCC Staff: Susan Anderson, Executive Director, Beth Worthen, Assistant Director, Susie Scott-Mullen, Facilitator, Keith Hageman, Administrative Assistant.

GUESTS:

Representative Pete Jorgensen; Senator Charles K. Scott; Lloyd Wilder, Insurance Dept.; Dan Lex, OHCF/WDA/APS; Mary Behrens, Wyoming Nurses Association; Lynne Weidel, WDH; Dan Neal; Sherlyn Kaiser; Cory Matteson, Casper Star-Tribune.

8:30 a.m. Meeting called to order by Chairman Dixie Roberts

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Roberts welcomed everyone and gave everyone the opportunity to introduce themselves.

II. Wyoming Health Information Organization (WyHIO) Report

Dan Lex, WyHIO Board Member, presented the commission with a report on what the WyHIO is doing. Highlights are as follows:

- A. **Stakeholder List**- The WyHIO is working on a list of stakeholders which they are dividing into two separate groups. Group one (1) will be given in depth coverage and consist of Physicians, Pharmacies, Clinics and Hospitals. Group two (2) will include all remaining stakeholders and will not be as comprehensive. There was comment that mental health facilities need to be included and Mr. Lex confirmed that they do need to be included and will be included.
- B. **Stakeholder Survey**- The WyHIO will be conducting a stakeholder survey/questionnaire to determine what software and hardware is currently being used, what needs to be done to integrate current systems, develop a cost estimate for a web based program and to develop a database. A final draft of the survey questions will be finalized by December 1, 2006, and the draft report to the WHCC will be delivered by March 15, 2007, with the final report being finished on March 31, 2007.

A copy of the *WyHIO* PowerPoint presentation is available on the WHCC's website <http://www.wyominghealthcarecommission.org/>

III. Dentist Education Program

Marian Schulz, from the Wyoming Dental Association, and Rick Miller, from the University of Wyoming, presented the commission with a plan that the Wyoming Dental Association and the University of Wyoming are working on to increase the number of dentists in Wyoming. The plan is similar to WWAMI but is specifically for dentists. Highlights of the plan are as follows:

- There will be five (5) slots each at Creighton and the University of Nebraska to pursue dentistry.
- Wyoming needs to gain five to ten dentists per year.
- The class of 2008 would be the first class to be able to use the program.
- The cost per student is in the \$50,000 range
- Will be paid back for loans in cash or by practicing in Wyoming. The loans paid back in cash will go back into the program to help sustain it.
- The legislation for the program would look like the WWAMI legislation, contract with universities.
- They propose a budget of \$500,000 and anything not used would carryover for the next year.
- 6 out of 7 participants in the WWAMI program have returned to live and practice in Wyoming and this same result would be anticipated for the dental program.
- Could use the HPTC data to help support this.
- The cost would be close to the WWAMI program but less in some years.

There was comment from the Commission that the program needs to include repayment incentives for treatment of Medicaid patients.

Sen. Scott commented on it needs to be a WHCC recommendation and would need to be on November meeting schedule.

IV. Sub-committee Breakouts

The Commission broke into three Sub-committees (Access & Affordability Sub-committee, Medicaid Sub-committee and Rural Health Care Delivery Systems Sub-committee) from 9:45am to 11:30am. Sub-committee notes/minutes are kept separately.

V. Rural Healthcare Delivery Systems (RHCDS) Sub-committee Report

- A. Motion for WHCC to endorse Dentist Education Program- The RHCDS Sub-committee motioned that the WHCC make a full recommendation to the Joint, Labor, Health & Social Services Committee to support the Dentist Education Program that Marian Schulz and Rick Miller presented earlier in the day and that the program should include incentives to treat Medicaid patients. The motion for the endorsement of the Dentist Education Program carried unanimously and was approved.

- B. **HPTC Data**- The statistical handbook is being fine tuned and will hopefully be ready to present to the Commission for review at the November 2006 WHCC Meeting. At some point the WHCC will need an in-house individual to work with and maintain the HPTC data.
- C. **RUPRI**- In progress and proceeding as planned.

VI. Access & Affordability (AAA) Sub-committee Report

- A. **Three(3) Target Populations**- The AAA Sub-committee has three target populations that they are hoping to be able to have Dr. Jonathan Gruber quantify:
 1. What will it cost to insure those who are *low-income and not Medicaid eligible*?
 2. What will it cost to insure individuals who are *Medicaid eligible but not enrolled*?
 3. What will it cost to insure those individuals who are *middle to upper income who are uninsured*?
- B. **Dr. Jonathan Gruber**- As mention above the AAA Sub-committee would like to contract with Jonathan Gruber. Due to time constraints it would have to be a sole source contract. The AAA Sub-committee is working on developing a scope of work for Dr. Gruber as quickly as possible to see how much it would cost to contract the work to him.
- C. **Tools that are still on the table to lower the number of uninsured:**
 1. Expansion of existing public programs
 2. Subsidizing the high risk pool
 3. Uncompensated care fund
 4. Mandated student coverage
 5. Incentivized employer coverage
 6. Reinsurance

Sen. Scott commented regarding the middle to upper income population, Wyoming Constitution Art. 16 Sec. 6 states that the state shall not make loans to any individual except for the necessary support of the "poor" and this needs to be kept in mind.

VII. SCHIP

Patty Guzman from the Wyoming Department of Health gave a brief overview of the effects that the Bush Administration's proposal, to reduce the number of years states have to spend their 2005 SCHIP Federal funds, would have on Wyoming.

- If the proposal goes through Wyoming would lose \$4.7 Million of its current Federal allotment.
- If the program is not reauthorized or is reauthorized but only at current funding levels, Wyoming will have to increase its state

funding or make cutbacks.

VIII. Director's Report

Susan Anderson, Executive Director, gave the Director's Report. The following handouts were covered and distributed to the Commissioners:

1. WHCC Contracts Update
2. WHCC Expenditures for September 2006
3. WHCC Report Deadlines
4. Quarterly Report

Executive Director, Susan Anderson, announced that the Commission will be switching to actual expenses for meals instead of M&IE/per diem allowance. From now on Commissioners need to keep their receipts for meals while traveling on Commission business and submit the originals to Keith Hageman, Administrative Assistant, for reimbursement.

IX. Medicaid Redesign Proposal Overview

Executive Director, Susan Anderson, gave an overview of the Medicaid Sub-committee's proposals. The overview included the following:

- A. Statutory Mandate for the Medicaid benefit redesign study.
- B. Time Line
 1. Oct. 1, 2006 Medicaid preliminary report due
 2. Oct. 1, 2008 Final report due
- C. Underlying Idea- the least restrictive environment saves money, satisfies people's need for independence.
- D. Cost Comparison of Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Long Term Care.
- E. Milliman Focus: Manage Transitions- Costs increase as care becomes more institutional, more restrictive.
- F. Seven Proposals:
 - PROPOSAL #1- Eliminate waiting lists for Long Term Care/Home Community Based Services and Assisted Living waiver slots
 - PROPOSAL #2- Enhance Project OUT diversion initiative
 - PROPOSAL #3- ENHANCE HOSPICE USE
 - PROPOSAL #4- IMPROVE WORKFORCE SUPPLY
 - PROPOSAL #5- Research possible future savings from state purchase of Long Term Care Insurance for appropriate segments of population.
 - PROPOSAL #6- Lander Training School
 - PROPOSAL #7- Support Wyoming Medicaid Transformation grant applications.

A copy of the *Medical Specialty Hospital* PowerPoint presentation is available on the WHCC's website

<http://www.wyominghealthcarecommission.org/>

The Commission voted on some but not all of the proposals. Proposals that were not voted on will be voted on at the next commission meeting. The voting was as follows:

- Proposal #1- Not Voted on
- Proposal #2- **Passed Unanimously**
- Proposal #3- Not Voted on
- Proposal #4- **Passed Portion Unanimously**, the "Continuation

Budget" portion. Remaining aspects of Proposal #4 were not voted on.

Proposal #5- Not Voted on but Commission requested that the WHCC Staff start the preliminary research

Proposal #6- **Passed Unanimously**. Need to make Legislature aware of this outcome of the Milliman Study.

Proposal #7- **Passed Unanimously**

Sen. Scott also suggested some ideas for the Commission to consider. They were as follows:

1. Private Room (implement gradually)
2. Adult Daycare- some are connected to senior center. What would expansion of these look like?
3. Respite Care
4. Expand "Lifeline"- Electronic alert systems
5. Adult Foster Care- State of Oregon (Wisconsin also) Cannot regulate this excessively for it to work efficiently.

Sen. Scott's suggestions were not voted on but will be considered by the Medicaid sub-committee.

The Medicaid sub-committee will continue to work on the above proposals and will present formal recommendations at the next Commission meeting. Chairman Roberts requested that the Commission as a whole receive the Medicaid Sub-committee's material for the remaining proposals to be voted on at least a week prior to the next meeting, when they will be voted on.

X. Medicaid Transformation Grant Applications, Greg Gruman (WDH)

Greg Gruman, Ph.D., from the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) gave a presentation on the Medicaid Transformation Grant Application that the WDH has applied for. WDH has applied for five (5) grants:

1. Quality prescribing program
2. Pharmacist Clinical Intervention
3. Health Start
4. ER Education
5. Total Health Record Program

A copy of the *Wyoming Department of Health's Medicaid Transformation Grant Applications* PowerPoint presentation is available on the WHCC's website <http://www.wyominghealthcarecommission.org/>

XI. Medical Specialty Centers Report

Executive Director, Susan Anderson, presented the report on the Medical Specialty Centers Study being conducted by Health Systems Change. Highlights from the presentation are as follows:

- A. Health System Change- Survey Of Studies Conclusions:
 1. There is mixed evidence about impacts of specialty hospitals.
 2. There is little impact on the number of procedures.
 3. Physician referral may favor physician-owned specialty hospitals.
 4. There are fewer Medicaid and self-pay patients treated at specialty hospitals.

5. There is no strong evidence that physician-owned medical specialty centers financially harm general hospitals.
6. The information on quality is "thin."

B. Issues For Discussion

1. Regulating self-referral
2. Certificate of Need
3. Taxing Ambulatory Surgical Centers for uncompensated care fund
4. Medicaid/Medicare service requirements
5. Emergency Service requirements
6. Disclosure laws

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The final portion of the report, which will include additional data, will be finalized on November 16th. As a result, the Commission will review and take action on the full report at the next meeting. Discussion ensued regarding whether to release the preliminary report, but it was the consensus of the Commission to wait and release the full report at a future date.

XIII. Meeting Wrap up

- The WHCC's next meeting was rescheduled for November 20, 2006.
- Commissioners will be e-mailed the Medicaid Sub-committee's recommendations to be voted on at the next meeting at least a week prior to that meeting.

4:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourned