

**Minutes
Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium
Executive Committee
January 23, 2013
Noon**

Attendees: Don Barber, Steve Thayer, Liz Karns, Judy Drake (via conference call), Members; Chantalise DeMarco; Judy Taber, Locey and Cahill; Michelle Pottorff, Administrative Clerk

Call to Order

Mr. Barber called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Review of Agenda

An item concerning prior authorization, quantity limits, or step therapy restrictions was added to the agenda.

ProAct Identification Cards

Mr. Barber said poll of the Board of Directors on the issue of the appearance of the ProAct identification card does not indicate a clear consensus on how to move forward. There was only one Board member in favor of not doing anything about the cards that were distributed with the Kinney Drug logo on the face of the card. He said there is a need to discuss advertising by a third party administrator on materials distributed on behalf of the Consortium. The second of three options presented to the Board was to not issue new identification cards but to have ProAct/Kinney send a letter to members addressing the card and making it clear that members are free to purchase medications at any participating pharmacy location.

Ms. Karns said she can support this option with the stipulation that the Board of Directors be able to review the letter before it is sent to members. She does not want to see it used as a marketing tool and wants to be sure such a letter does not cause any greater confusion.

Ms. DeMarco communicated a concern raised by Anita Fitzpatrick, Tompkins County Personnel Commissioner, who raised another level of concern about these cards being used as a value card. She said that Ms. Fitzpatrick tested the card at a pharmacy and was told it could not be used as a value card at that location. It was stressed that the letter from ProAct should clearly state the card is not a Kinney value card.

Based on the discussion Mr. Barber said he will work with Mr. Locey and communicate with ProAct and direct them to prepare this letter as soon as possible and present it to the Consortium for review before it is sent to members.

Ms. DeMarco, upon guidance from Beth Miller of Excellus, suggested setting a final date at which the current cards can be provided to members and that new cards that have been approved by the Consortium, be issued following that date.

Contraceptive Coverage – Pharmacy Benefits Implementation Checklist

Preventive Care Drugs and Women’s Health Sections

Ms. Taber said this issue is related to the Affordable Care Act (Women’s Preventative Services) in which it is now required that health plans cover FDA accepted drugs for the prevention of pregnancy with no cost sharing. As a result members will now be able to get birth control pills at the pharmacy with a zero copay. She said there are no over-the-counter drugs included.

Ms. Karns asked if the list included all available drugs or if it was a restricted list that was generated by ProAct and said she would like assurance that the list presented is fully comprehensive. *Ms. Taber said she did not have a separate list but would look into whether there is another list.*

Mr. Barber said by not having the list there should be discussion of over the counter drugs versus prescription drugs only, which is being recommended by the Consultant. Ms. DeMarco said she doesn’t believe over the counter drugs are currently covered at a zero copay and there may need to be discussion of a cost shift as well if that were to happen. The Committee was not prepared to make a decision without having the fully comprehensive list.

Manual Claims Adverse Determination Letter

It was agreed that the Consortium would use the ProAct, Inc. letter to respond to plan members.

Appeals from Prior Authorization

It was agreed that appeals would first be handled by the ProAct and if there is no resolution an appeal would come to the Consortium’s Appeals Committee

It was agreed that information on the first two sections of the checklist can be provided electronically and members can provide input after receipt.

Prior Authorization, Quantity Limits, or step Therapy Restrictions

Ms. DeMarco said the County and the City’s collective bargaining units do not contain prior authorization, quantity limits, or step therapy restrictions. There has always been an open formulary but every drug is available without restriction. She said members have been experiencing this since the first of the year and noted this is a change in benefits and it is a collective bargaining issue.

She provided an example of a person who has prescription coverage through the County’s policy and who has a dependent who has been on a medication for a long period of time. Upon going to get a refill the person is unable to refill a medication until a form is completed and ProAct approves the medication. Mr. Barber asked if this is a benefit change or a process change. Because prior authorization was requested it is a benefit change because that implies the medication may not be approved. Ms. DeMarco said there are other

restrictions, such as quantity limits and step therapy restrictions that members have also experienced since ProAct became the pharmacy benefits manager on January 1, 2013.

Ms. Drake said it was her belief that ProAct was going to duplicate the plan the Consortium had with Medco.

Ms. Taber said there may be cost implications because the rates were developed with this criteria in mind which is a cost saving feature to the Plan. Mr. Barber said it has been the Consortium's philosophy through the process changing the PBM that there would be not be any reduction in benefit.

Ms. Karns said she would like to look at original discussions to make sure the Consortium is clear on what was stated. Ms. DeMarco said she served on the RFP Review Committee and there was no discussion of drugs being eligible for these restrictions.

Mr. Barber will speak with Mr. Locey about this and will take the necessary steps to see this is corrected.

Approval of Meeting Notes - September 6 and November 28, 2012

It was MOVED by Mr. Barber, seconded by Ms. Karns, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve the minutes of September 5, 2012 as submitted. MINUTES APPROVED.

It was MOVED by Mr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Thayer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve the minutes of November 28, 2012 as submitted. MINUTES APPROVED.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.