

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

ATTENDEES:

Robert Snyder, MD, Medical Director
Abbie Hudgens, Administrator, TN Div. of WC
Jeffrey Hazlewood, MD, Asst. Medical Director
Ginny Howard, Zurich
Rob Behnke, Cracker Barrel
John Brophy, MD, Neurosurgeon
Keith Graves, DC, Chiropractor
Lisa Hartman, RN, TNAFLCIO
James Talmage, MD, Asst. Medical Director
Gregory Kyser, MD
Dr. Jason Carter, Pharm D
David Tutor, MD, Committee Chair
Suzy Douglas, TN Div. of WC
Margaret Collier, TN Div. of WC
Kelly Burns, TN Div. of WC

ON PHONE:

Misty Williams, Travelers
Sushil Mankani, MD, Regional Medical Director, Liberty Mutual
Gaye Fortner, HealthCare 21 Business Coalition

GUESTS:

Ken Eichler, ODG
James R. Andrews, Automated HealthCare Solutions
Cory Wedding, Automated HealthCare Solutions
Mary Ryan, Medtronic
Jim Schmidt, Medtronic
Faith Parrish, Vanderbilt
Terry Parker, Vanderbilt
Kim Baldwin, Baker Donelson
Alan Rook, Pharm D, My Matrixx
Kevin Tribboot, Helios
Laura Roberson, Vanderbilt
Robin Smith, Rivers Edge Alliance
Lou Alsobrooks, Smith-Harris
Jesse Larrison, Enable Comp.
Dave Broemel, Baker Donelson
Gary Zelizer, TMA
Leann Lewis, Coventry
Rachel Bauer, State of TN, Dept. of Mental Health

GUESTS CONTINUED:

Grace Messick, State of TN, Dept. of Mental Health
John P. Williams, Tennessee Chiropractic Assoc.
Susan M. Stewart, Aetna/Coventry Workers Comp.
David White, Enable Comp
Treva G. Overstreet, Carvel Corp.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

One Change: Lisa Hartman requested AFLCIO be added to her title. She also requests that the minutes reflect the AFLCIO will support the drug formulary if there is an appeal system or recourse for the providers and injured workers. Dr. Graves moved to approve. Ginny Howard seconded the motion. With corrections being made as aforementioned, the minutes will stand approved.

Abbie Hudgens presented power point presentation. 2012 TN workers compensation showed discontent among the stakeholders. There were too many delays in medical care. Medical providers were frustrated with the utilization review program. 2013 reform results wanted less interruption in continuity of care, a UR process that was speedy and fair. Plan: Develop better Treatment Guidelines.

Dr. Robert Snyder gave an overview and power point presentation with discussion of the current guidelines being used by other states with comparisons of each.

1. Washington State- Public Domain.
 2. MD Guidelines- ACOEM (Reed Group)
 3. ODG
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1. Washington State- free, simple, standard cookbook but, limited detail, limited appeals process; somewhat cumbersome to appeal decision.
 2. MD Guidelines- difficult to navigate. Best references, but costly.
 3. ODG- Good price, referenced well. Too many alternatives for certain conditions. Appendix for an appeal mechanism.

Cost analysis discussed:

Washington State- Free
MD Guidelines/MD Group- \$800 per subscription
ODG - \$200 per subscription.

26 States use all or part of ACOEM, ODG. Using either of these Guidelines, one would anticipate a decrease overall denials and appeals, therefore lowering cost.

Of note, there is the opportunity to appeal.

Discussion ensued regarding specific states and their specific guidelines. Committee members voiced specific concerns including cost, appeal mechanisms, ease of use, and decreased need for utilization review with appropriate provider documentation using the Guideline.

Abbie Hudgens explained the transition time for rule making process once the appropriate Guidelines are selected, followed by educational forums across the state.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT:

Next Medical Advisory Committee Meeting- April 23, 2015 at 1pm.

Causation suggestions for physicians have been posted under Latest News on the website.

Adjustor Training- March 24^h-25^h, 2015

Suggestion was made to vote on Guidelines today. Dr. Brophy requests delayed vote until next meeting in order to have more discussions with adjusters and physicians. Dr. Brophy would also like to do additional research on ACOEM.

Dr. Tutor motioned to delay voting until April meeting. The Guideline vote will be placed on the April agenda.

Meeting Adjourned.