



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR NANCY WYMAN

Health Care Cabinet

November 13, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Chair; Patricia Baker, Vice Chair; Ellen Andrews; Phil Boyle; Jeannette DeJesús; Bonita Grubbs; William Handelman; Kevin Lembo; Tim Lyons (for Thomas Leonardi); Terrence Macy; John Oraziotti; Frances Padilla; Margaret Smith

Members Absent: Ben Barnes; Roderick Bremby; Terry Edelstein; Steven Hanks; Joette Katz; Jeffrey Lucht; Donna Moore; Jewel Mullen; Patricia Rehmer; Linda St. Peter; Robert Tessier; Vicki Veltri; Joanne Walsh

Call to Order

Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman opened the meeting at 9:00 am by welcoming all attendees.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the October 9, 2012 regular meeting were approved with no changes.

Office of Health Reform & Innovation Updates

Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús provided updates from the Office of Health Reform & Innovation.

- **State Innovation Model (SIM) Grant:** The Office of Health Reform & Innovation has been working on preparation and planning for the SIM process. States which applied for the SIM grant will be notified in December as to whether they have been awarded grants.

The Office's efforts to plan ahead will ensure that the State is ready to begin the model design process if and when the grant is awarded. The Office of Health Reform & Innovation is coordinating this work with the Department of Public Health, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, and the Office of the State Comptroller. This planning includes the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting services, as well as hiring durational staff to work on the project.

- **Consumer Advisory Board:** Ms. DeJesús introduced Rick Porth, co-chair of the Consumer Advisory Board, to report on the group's activities. Mr. Porth said that the Consumer Advisory Board is partnering with other groups holding consumer forums on health reform issues, including the Health Justice Town Hall on October 23, and the Exchange's Healthy Chat forum series in November and December. He said that members of the Consumer Advisory Board continue to participate in other work groups and Exchange board meetings.
- **Basic Health Plan Work Group:** Ms. DeJesús said that the Basic Health Plan Work Group is in the final stages of its analysis of the Basic Health Plan (BHP) option for Connecticut. The group has retained Milliman to conduct an actuarial analysis, and has been working with consultants from the University of Massachusetts to address policy questions. Governor Malloy and Lt. Governor Wyman wrote a letter to Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), requesting federal guidance on the BHP. To date, HHS has not responded to this request.

Presentation on All-Payer Claims Database

Ms. DeJesús and Bobbi Schmidt gave a presentation on the Office of Health Reform & Innovation's work on the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD). Ms. DeJesús began by discussing the origin of the APCD, starting with a work group that has been meeting since the fall of 2011. Since then, the Office of Health Reform & Innovation sought legislation to establish an APCD, and a bill with that purpose was passed by the legislature during the 2012 legislative session and was subsequently signed by the Governor. The APCD will receive \$6.5 million in initial funding from the federal government as part of a grant to the Health Insurance Exchange. The Office of Health Reform & Innovation is in the process of promulgating regulations for the APCD.

Ms. Schmidt described the purpose and function of the APCD. She said that the APCD will contain several types of data, including information on eligibility and claims, from payers. The purposes of the APCD will be to help consumers make decisions on purchasing health care services, monitor the quality of care provided in the state, evaluate the quality of the Exchange, and other related goals. In addition to promulgating regulations, the Office of Health Reform & Innovation is working on hiring staff for the APCD, issuing an RFP for a data management vendor, and developing a data submission guide. Ms. Schmidt presented a timeline for accomplishing these and other tasks.

In response to questions, Ms. Schmidt said that personal information in the APCD will be de-identified and carefully protected, and will not be disclosed to anyone seeking data from the APCD. She also said that the APCD will collect race, ethnicity, and language data. Any entity seeking data from the APCD will need to have its request reviewed by a committee, which will consider proposed uses of the data.

Ms. DeJesús thanked the members of the APCD Advisory Group, the payers, and Ms. Schmidt for their work on developing the APCD.

Additional Work Group Updates

There were no updates from the other Work Groups.

Health Insurance Exchange Update

Kevin Counihan provided updates from the Health Insurance Exchange. He reminded the Cabinet that the Exchange submitted its blueprint application to the federal government in October, even though the deadline was extended until the end of the year. The Exchange is continuing its work on setting up information technology systems and continues to hire new staff members. A draft of the RFP for qualified health plans has been written, and will be reviewed by the board and advisory groups. The Exchange will be holding a series of town hall forums beginning in late November in seven cities across the state.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.