

Act 292 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session

Council on Medicaid Pharmacy Reimbursement

Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Bienville Building

Room 118

628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Name	Committee Attendance	Attendance
M.J. Terrebonne	Pharmacist (Senate Committee on Health & Welfare)	Present
Kim Wixson	Louisiana Pharmacists Association	Present
Nikki Hollier	Louisiana Board of Pharmacy	Present
Melwyn Wendt	Louisiana Department of Health	Absent
Dana Antoon	Louisiana Board of Pharmacy	Present
Dr. Stewart Gordon	Physician (Senate Committee on Health & Welfare)	Present
Doug Boudreaux	Pharmacist (House Committee on Health & Welfare)	Absent
Randal Johnson	Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association	Present
Dr. Wanda Thomas	Physician (House Committee on Health & Welfare)	Absent
Jeff Gaude	National Association of Chain Drug Stores	Present
Pam Reed	LA Alliance of Retail Pharmacies	Present
Zoom Attendance	Dan Ware, Doug Boudreaux, Kimberly Sullivan, Ricky Guidry, Robert Rock, Dr. Shantel Hebert Magee, Melwyn Wendt, Diane Milano, Minh Nguyen, Glass Half Full, Gregory Poret,	

- **Call to order**
  - The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by M.J. Terrebonne
- **Introductions and Quorum Determination**
  - The roll was called by M.J. Terrebonne and a quorum was confirmed.
- **Review and approval of March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes**
  - Kim Wixson moved to approve the minutes and Pam Reed seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no objection.
- **Council to discuss reason and purpose for each data request**

- M.J. Terrebonne stated some of the reports have been provided.
- Nikki said the intention for having this data is so clear and concise decisions could be made. All of this ties into cost to dispense and delays to care.
  - LDH response: Due to the number and extensiveness of the data requests, LDH has to hire someone to handle the number, specification and requested revisions for each of the requests. This person will be hired through the ULM contract and will be assigned specifically to the Council's data requests.
- Doug Boudreaux asked, are any of these reports readily available now?
  - LDH response: most of the requests are customized reports we would need from our data team.
- M.J. Terrebonne asked if there is a report for denial type.
  - LDH response: there is one DUR report LDH receives from the MCO's. The report includes percentages of claim by denial type. LDH could provide an existing report.
- M.J. Terrebonne asked will Magellan process claims once it goes to the single PBM
  - LDH response: LDH hasn't gotten to the stage of reporting and what reports we would need. Magellan will get historical claims.
- Nikki Hollier asked, what is the timeline on getting an individual hired?
  - LDH response: LDH has completed the paperwork and posted the position. Kolynda confirmed the position has received ULM approval and was posted on the ULM HR Website about a week ago. There has been 3 applications received to date, which are currently under review.
- Kim Wixson stated it is not the intention of the council to increase the staff's work load for no reason. The end goal is to cut down on delay to patient care.
  - LDH response: LDH want to be working partners. LDH asked the Council to take the list and tell LDH the specific information the Council is interested in seeing and could ensure the data is extracted/cut based on the specifications requested. This is clear example of why LDH has to hire someone to handle the changes in data requests by the Council. LDH asked the Council to take the data requests list submitted to LDH, which included distinct data request and tell LDH which requests are most important. If there are additional specifications that is needed, LDH can determine the length of time it would take to produce data.
- Randal Johnson made a motion to ask the department to provide a listing of readily available reports, either through fee for service or MCO systems. Could requests from the Council be treated as public records requests?
  - LDH agreed that the Council should submit data requests as public records requests (PRR) through the portal. Kim Sullivan will be the point of contact for the list of data requests and can assign someone to submit the initial requests to the PRR portal.

- Nikki Hollier said to clarify this motion, the Council would like their requests to be treated through the public records request. One, there's a timeline on response. Two, the requirement would be for the information to be provided.
  - LDH Legal said if it's a public records request, it can be entered into the portal and this will kick off the process.
- Nikki Hollier amended the motion. Randal's motion requested the department provide a listing of reports readily available within in the next two weeks.
  - Kim Wixson second the motion.
  - Nikki Hollier asked the department what is a reasonable timeline for this data?
    - LDH response: approximately two weeks.
  - The Council approved Nikki Hollier's motion.
- Jeff Gaude seconded Randal's motion for the data request to be treated as a public records request.
  - LDH Legal provided a response, whatever you want as part of a public records requests, please send to Kim Sullivan.
- The Council asked if a data request is sent through, what the process is.
  - LDH Legal stated, LDH has to respond within a reasonable timeframe. Medicaid would have to provide Legal the timeline. MJ would need to submit the PRRs through the portal and would receive an official response letter from Legal.
- Nikki Hollier stated half of the pharmacy claims have a DUR edit. The Council would want to know this information, because it drives up the cost to dispense these prescriptions. This directly ties into the reason for the data requests submitted by Council. Pharmacist are having to stop seeing patients to be able to answer question related to these DUR edits. Nikki continues to state that one cannot improve what is not measured. Part of the goal for this Council is to bring awareness to the department of issues and metrics so we can improve care for the people and state.
- Kim asked is there any proactive approach we can take towards the PBM or Magellan.
  - LDH response: LDH has a work plan for PBM activities. LDH will take feedback from the Council into consideration. There are teams working on different phases of the project. LDH is on track for Single PBM implementation by October 1<sup>st</sup>. LDH will schedule meetings with stakeholders as outlined in the work plan.
- M.J. Terrebonne stated, perhaps Magellan can do a single presentation to the Council, sometime later in the year.
- Randal Johnson asked, at what point are providers going to involved in the process.
  - LDH response: LDH is following the work plan and timeline. LDH will ask for a list of external stakeholders the Council would want involved in the conversation. LDH is thinking about the members first and foremost. LDH asked for grace and the opportunity to get the single PBM implementation in position to engage stakeholders.

- Jeff Gaude asked when we are going to involve the stake holders. How do we work with Magellan ahead of time?
    - LDH response: LDH will determine stakeholder engagement and discuss with Magellan. LDH will follow-up with the Council.
- **Update to Pharmacy Credentialing Fee**
  - LDH legal said the cease and desist letters went out to all MCO's. This letter is public record and LDH can provide a copy after the meeting.
- **Reprocessing of claims with updated NADAC**
  - Randal Johnson asked how long it will take to update the NADAC request.
  - LDH response: the pharmacy providers are buying at a higher rate. Once the NADAC rates change, Gainwell and the MCOs receive the rate change. The MCO contract requires the MCOs to update the NADAC rate within 3 business days of the new rate being posted.
- **Updates to the council's letter to Secretary Phillips**
  - M.J. Terrebonne emailed the secretary requesting a response to the Council's letter. Medicaid will follow-up on LDH's response to the Council's letter.
- **Provider Enrollment Updates**
  - LDH shared an update on the provider enrollment portal. As of last week, LDH had 5 Pharmacies not enrolled in the portal. A total of 322 Pharmacist are not enrolled and 4,028 prescribers are not enrolled.
- **Medicaid Single PBM Update**
  - MJ shared the Council is available if any assistance is needed
- **Changes regarding the ending of the public health emergency**
  - Charlene Julien from LDH provided a presentation regarding the ending of the public health emergency. The slides will be available on the Council's website.
- **Call for Public Testimony**
  - N/A
- **Other Business**
  - N/A
- **Adjournment**
  - Randal Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pam Reed seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.