

**Act 292 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session
Council on Medicaid Pharmacy Reimbursement**

Wednesday, June 14th 2023

9:00 a.m.

Bienville Building

Room 118

628 N. 4th 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	Absent
Melwyn Wendt	Louisiana Department of Health	Absent
Dana Antoon	Louisiana Board of Pharmacy	Absent
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)	Present
Jeff Gaude	National Association of Chain Drug Stores	Present
Pam Reed	LA Alliance of Retail Pharmacies	Absent
Zoom Attendance	Doug Boudreaux, Nikki Hollier, Mary Staples, Rosalind Borders, TJ Woodard, iPhone Errol, QS1Acct, Charlie Corona, Robert Rock, Minh Nguyen, Greg, Danielle, Andy Soileau, 3375238136	

- **Call to order**
 - The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.
- **Introductions and Quorum Determination**
 - The roll was called by M.J. Terrebonne and a quorum was confirmed.
- **Review and approval of the April 12th meeting minutes**
 - Randal Johnson moved to approve the minutes and Jeff Gaude seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no objection.
- **SIN Report Review**

- Randal Johnson: The rebates are well more than 50 percent of the program. This is a 1.5 billion dollar program. Last year we have the move from Focalin to Adderall.
- Tara LeBlanc: I have not received a directive from the secretary. Once I receive a recommendation from the secretary then I can share.
- Kim Wixson: As owners we are expected to increase our expenses for the state to make money off our rebates. We are not even getting compensated to cover this cost.
- LDH response: I understand your point of view. From a state perspective, we are not getting additional money. I think everyone needs to work together and collaborate. I also know the budget is in a financial crisis. Our budget was cut by 100 million dollars.
- Randal: In general, I think the goal is to make sure revenue per prescription is equal to the Medicaid dispensing fee. Above the costs of goods, pharmacists are losing. Their cost of dispensing is greater than 12. Pharmacists are losing money because the costs of goods are higher.
- LDH response: Our mission and goal is for everyone to receive adequate service. We look at the drug list and look at the impact. What is the impact to the program? If there is a cut, we will have to cut services. We expect our churn rate to be high.
- Dr. Stewart Gordon: The rebates can help in any area of Medicaid expenses?
- LDH: It could, the rebates we received does not cover the pharmacy program. Everything has to be back on the fiscal year instead of the calendar year.
- Randal Johnson: With all these changes will the members receive another Piece of mail?
- LDH response: No, open enrollment is still going on. As of today, open enrollment is October 1st.

- **Update on the State Plan Amendment for Professional Dispensing Fee**

- LDH response: The report is still out for public comment right now. The public comment period is still open.

- **Update on Vaccine Counseling**

- LDH stated vaccine counseling will be effective October 1st
- Randal Johnson asked will there be guidance?
- LDH response: Yes, there will be guidance.
- Randal Johnson: The vaccine with children's program started over 20 years ago. How can we consider moving forward with the pharmacists in regard to the vaccine for the children's program?
- Dr. Wanda Thomas: With the VFC program, this all ties into well visits. I would be hesitant to turn VFC strictly over to the pharmacy. If there's a way to increase reimbursements, I respect this. However, in regard to wellness for pediatrics; I would discourage this.
- LDH response: This program was created to make sure kids get their well visits in. We will circle with OPH and let you know their recommendation.

- **Legislative Update**
 - LDH response: Other than the suggested 100 million dollar reduction, I do not believe there's anything we need to be concerned with. There was a lot of discussion on gene therapy. Some of the bills didn't pass but there are some resolutions for Medicaid.
- **Single PBM Update**
 - LDH response: The PBM will go live October 1st.
- **Update on LDH Survey of NADAC and AAC Results**
 - LDH provided a copy of the voting results for the NADAC and AAC poll. 46 respondents voted for NADAC and 46 respondents voted for AAC.
- **Discussion of the proposed rules issued in the May 26th Federal Register titled Medicaid Program:**
 - Randal Johnson asked if policy or the pharmacy team had a chance to review the proposed rules.
 - LDH response: Yes, however we do not know the impact. We are doing a deep dive of the federal register.
 - Dr. Wanda Thomas said for primary care, we do not do this often. This would be the majority of our patient population. It's easier to link with electronic health records. The only paper prescriptions I write are ADHD medications.
 - Randal Johnson asked if you enter real time when you see a patient, or is there someone doing the billing codes?
 - Dr. Wanda Thomas said you have to use real time. From a billing and coding reimbursement you have a certain amount of time to get your notes in. With Epic, you must have a code to for the prescription and sign.
- **Call for Public Testimony**
 - N/A
- **Other Business**
 - Randal Johnson believes it would be great if LDH staff would be able to attend the conference for the Louisiana Pharmacists Association, coming to Baton Rouge.
- **Adjournment**
 - Jeff Gaude motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim Wixson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.