



Medical Care Advisory Committee Meeting
February 20, 2024
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Committee Attendance

Members Present:

Ann Kay Cefalu Logarbo, MD, FAAP – *Aetna*
Annelies De Wulf, MD, MPH, FAIM – *LSU Health Sciences*
Cheryll Bowers-Stephens, MD, MBA – *Healthy Blue*
Damien Cuffie, DDS, MPH – *DentaQuest*
Floyd Roberts, Jr., MD – *Louisiana Hospital Association*
Gerrelda Davis, MBA – *Louisiana Primary Care Association*
Glenda Johnson, MD – *United Healthcare Community*
Glennis Gray, PhD, MSN, RN-BC, CHN* - *Louisiana Department of Health*
Justin Bennet FNP-BC – *Rural Health Nursing*
Larry Humble, PharmD, PhD – *University of Louisiana Monroe*
Michael Bodin, MD – *OLOL Physicians Group*
Michael Giorlando, DDS – *MCNA*
Shantel Hebert-Magee, MD, MPH – *Louisiana Medicaid Chief Medical Officer*
Rep. Stephanie Berault – *Louisiana House of Representatives*
Steve B. Spedale, MD, FAAP – *Infamedics*
Stewart T. Gordon, MD, FAAP – *Louisiana Healthcare Connections*
Wes Hataway – *Louisiana Nursing Home Association*
Yvonne Domingue, MS, RN – *Department of Children and Family Services*

Members Absent

David M. Carter, DMD – *Smiles Family Dentistry Orthodontics*
Eboness Black – *Volunteers of America*
Jamie Duplechine - *Advocate*
Joe R. Rosier, Jr., CFA – *The Rapides Foundation*
John Vanchiere, MD – *Physicians-Shreveport*
Joseph Biggio, Jr., MD, MS - *Ochsner*
Mark Keiser, MBA, MPH – *Access Health Louisiana*
Rodney Wise, MD – *AmeriHealth Caritas of Louisiana*
Senator Regina Barrow – *Louisiana State Senate*
Shelly Gupta, MD – *Humana*



Welcome

Dr. Hebert-Magee welcomed the committee and special guests to the meeting. Special guests included LDH senior leadership: Secretary Dr. Ralph Abraham, Undersecretary Michael Harrington, and Medicaid Interim Director Kimberly Sullivan, JD. The MCAC members introduced themselves to senior leadership subsequently. Mr. Harrington shared some LDH priorities from the new administration.

Medicaid Program Updates

Mrs. Kim Sullivan shared that the single PBM implementation has been successful. She stated the Medicaid unwind remained a major focus and presented the renewals data. She directed the meeting participants to the LDH website to review additional Medicaid unwind. All information can be found on the Healthy Louisiana [website](#).

- Medicaid UNWIND is in the final months.
 - Final renewal packets will be sent out in March.
 - Final closures will occur May 31, 2024.
- To date, initiated 1.3 million renewals.
 - 663,000 have been a part of the ex-parte process (no work on behalf of member).
 - 232,000 renewals completed through actual renewal packets.
 - 131,000 renewal packets were completed and returned but member was determined ineligible and closed.
 - Closure ended 272,000 for failure to return packet.
- Churn data is located on the website. Children accounted for half of Medicaid churn.

Medicaid Medical Director Updates

Review Minutes from November 14, 2023 Meeting

Dr. Spedale motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Dr. Gordon seconded. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

Sickle Cell Reports

- Objective independent consultant reports were commissioned.
- Three reports were generated on the following:
 1. Gene Therapy
 2. L-Glutamine
 3. Access to therapy
- All reports have been completed and have been passed on to LGR and once finalized, they will be passed on to the MCAC. This will help inform policy.

Incentive Measures and Measurement Year 2024 Targets

- Incentive Measures have not changed.
- Dr. Gordon asked if the team considered looking at the southern average benchmark. Mrs. Kolynda Parker stated that the plans exceeded the regional benchmark, thus we adopted the national benchmark to create a stretch goal. Mrs. Parker expressed that once the report is finalized, it will be could be shared with the committee.



- **Maternal Care Coordination**

- We want to make sure that we have designated individuals who are supporting peripartum women reducing the likelihood of adverse complications and acute care utilization.
- Community Health Workers – working with LSU CHVE
- Evaluation of existing data.

Presentation

Presented by Ashley Wennerstrom, PhD, LSU CHVE

[Community Health Worker Research & Evaluation in Louisiana](#)

- Discussed the definition of a Community Health Worker and job titles.
- In 2019, the Louisiana Legislature passed a resolution to create the LA CHW (Louisiana Community Health Worker) Study Committee.
- Conducted a study of CHWs in Louisiana and developed a Louisiana CHW Workforce Study Committee Report with recommendations.
- New Research: Medicaid Coalition of Hematologist (CHW) CA, NY, Claims Analysis. Most recent data came from 2022 and study is now IRB approved.

Subcommittee Updates

Quality Subcommittees

Adult Medicine – Dr. Michael Bodin – Chair

- Contacted members of the committee and trying to reconstitute with regional representation

Behavioral Health – Dr. Lannis Tynes – Chair

- Subcommittee did not report out.

Dental – Dr. Nicholas G. Mosca – Chair

Update provided by Dr. Hebert-Magee

- Reviewing data to assist with informed decisions-making and evidence-based policies.
- Denture nadir coincided with the PHE.
- Discussion on potential grant applications.

Emergency Medicine – Dr. Annelies De Wulf – Chair

- Discussion regarding a new device review and lack of peer-reviewed to support usage.

Neonatology – Dr. Steve Spedale – Chair

- Give another statewide collaborative report. NICU care has always been at or above the national average. Need to see if there are any new hotspots.
- 10 days ago, the CDC sent new guidelines for syphilis.
- Dr. HM states that congenital syphilis is a new PIP. Making sure it is properly diagnosed and treated prior to delivery.
- Dr. Glenda Johnson stated that there should be signs that say “if you’re planning to get pregnant this year, get tested”. Normalizing testing and increasing public awareness could potentially help curve the number of congenital syphilis cases.



Dr. Hebert-Magee, Mr. Harrington, and Dr. De Wulf participated in a lengthy discussion regarding clinical and laboratory operations and protocols impacting rapid STI diagnosis in the ED.

Obstetrics – Dr. Joseph Biggio – Chair

- Subcommittee did not report out.

Pediatrics – Dr. John Vanchiere – Chair

- Subcommittee did not report out.

Laboratory Medicine and Test Utilization – Dr. Shantel Hebert-Magee – Chair

- Evaluated the clinical utility, uptake, and fiscal impact of novel agents and ROI for Medicaid members and the program.

Announcements/Open Forum

Test Results

- The committee discussed the topic of alerting patients with test results. Doctor's on the committee gave their input on how this issue can be addressed. Dr. Hebert-Magee mentioned that OPH has Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) that go out into the community to notify patients of their status/test result if they aren't able to get in contact with them through routine methods. At the request of Dr. Roberts, Dr. Hebert-Magee will consult with SHIP and report back the percentage of persons testing positive for Syphilis and HIV that are contacted by OPH.

Louisiana Doctors

- There was a healthy discussion regarding the possibility of keeping Louisiana resident medical students, interns, and resident physicians here in their home state to remedy provider shortages.

Dental

- Dr. Cuffie discussed Oral Health provider shortages stating "that there are limited oral surgeons who takes Medicaid in the western and central part of the state. Therefore, patients have to travel to Baton Rouge to be seen". He stated that many oral surgeons in the state are opting out of Medicaid.
- Dr. Giorlando requested that the issue be on the radar of the executive management team.
- Dr. Giorlando stated that there have been some oral surgeons secured in the Lake Charles area.
- Mrs. Kim Sullivan states that LA Medicaid is evaluating the cost for pregnant women and oral surgeons.

Adjourn

Dr. Spedale motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Gordon seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.