

STATE OF VERMONT
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD

**AMENDMENT #1 TO FY24 ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATION
BUDGET ORDER**

In re: OneCare Vermont Accountable) Docket No. 23-001-A
Care Organization, LLC)
Fiscal Year 2024)
_____)

INTRODUCTION

In December 2023 the Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB or Board) voted to establish the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) budget for OneCare Vermont Accountable Care Organization, LLC (OneCare). This decision was reflected in the FY24 OneCare Vermont ACO Budget Order (Budget Order) entered on February 29, 2024.¹ On March 15, 2024 OneCare asked the Board to modify Condition 1 of the Budget Order to (1) extend the deadline to submit its first semiannual benchmarking report for FY24 and (2) allow it to submit newly required statistical significance analysis later in the year. On March 27, 2024 the Board considered OneCare’s requests at a public meeting. For the reasons set forth below, the Board voted to amend Condition 1 of the FY24 Budget Order to align with OneCare’s requests.

FINDINGS

1. Condition 1 of the Budget Order requires OneCare to continue to support and submit to the GMCB a performance benchmarking report. This report is designed to compare the quality, cost, and utilization metrics of OneCare’s programs to national benchmarks to better assess OneCare’s performance against a broad national set of ACOs. *See* Budget Order, Condition 1.
2. Relevant to OneCare’s current request for amendment, Condition 1 in the Budget Order requires OneCare to submit an updated benchmarking report by March 31, 2024 and to include with its filing (1) new statistical significance analysis and (2) the risk of all attribution cohorts for each year. *See* Budget Order, Condition 1(e)-(f). The Board ordered these improvements based on its review of the initial 2022 benchmarking report and its updates in 2023, finding that these improvements will help OneCare monitor its program outcomes and identify focus areas for meaningful population health investment. *See* Budget Order, Findings, ¶¶ 67-71.
3. On March 15, 2024 OneCare submitted two extension requests related to Condition 1 of the Budget Order. *See* Letter from Sara Barry, March 15, 2024 (OneCare Request Letter).²

¹ <https://gmcboard.vermont.gov/document/fy24-onecare-vermont-budget-order>

² <https://gmcboard.vermont.gov/document/onecare-vermont-benchmarking-report-extension-request>

4. In its first request, OneCare asked the Board to extend the updated benchmarking report submission date from March 31, 2024 to April 30, 2024. OneCare stated that this extension would allow its vendor to conduct quality assurance processes so that the report, which includes the new beneficiary risk levels, can become a public document. *Id.*
5. In its second request, OneCare asked the Board to extend the deadline to submit the new statistical significance analysis to the date of the second semiannual report, currently set for September 30, 2024. *See* OneCare Vermont Reporting Manual at 19.³ OneCare stated that this extension would give it time to work with its vendor and GMCB staff to clarify the technical specifications necessary to meet this requirement. *Id.*
6. At the March 27, 2024 meeting GMCB staff explained that it did not object to OneCare's requests to modify Condition 1 of the Budget Order. Staff explained that by delaying the submission date to April 30, the updated benchmarking report would not be available for OneCare's FY24 revised budget hearing on April 17, but would be available prior to the GMCB staff analysis presentation. As to the second request, staff stated that the extended deadline would allow it to work with OneCare to determine the appropriate methodology for statistical significance analysis.⁴

CONCLUSIONS

As we stated in the Budget Order, we believe that the improvements to the benchmarking report as outlined in Condition 1 are an asset to the GMCB. We believe that these improvements will help OneCare better monitor and report on the effectiveness of its programs and to sharpen the ACO's focus on areas that will result in the most significant return on investment in cost and quality. These extensions do not meaningfully impact the Board's ability to monitor OneCare's compliance with the Budget Order. The Board believes that approving these extension requests will provide it with better data to monitor the ACO and will increase transparency of OneCare's operations and effectiveness for Vermont consumers.

ORDER

Based on our Findings and Conclusions above and pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9382 we amend OneCare's FY24 Budget Order as follows:

1. Condition 1(e) in the Budget Order is amended to state the following:

The 2024 benchmarking report must additionally include (i) statistical significance analysis and (ii) risk of all cohorts for each year. OneCare must first report on statistical significance analysis in its second FY24 updated benchmarking report, pursuant to the deadline set forth

³ <https://gmcboard.vermont.gov/document/fy24-onecare-vermont-reporting-manual>

⁴A video recording of this meeting is available from Onion River Community Access (ORCA) Media (<https://www.orcamedia.net/series/green-mountain-care-board>) and on the Board's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@GreenMountainCareBoard>).

in the ACO Reporting Manual. OneCare must first report on risk of all cohorts for each year in its first FY24 updated benchmarking report.

- 2. Condition 1(f) in the Budget Order is replaced with the following:

The first FY24 updated benchmarking report must be submitted to the Board by April 30, 2024.

So ordered.

Dated: April 5, 2024 in Montpelier, Vermont

s/ Owen Foster, Chair)
) GREEN MOUNTAIN
s/ Jessica Holmes) CARE BOARD
) OF VERMONT
s/ Robin Lunge)
)
s/ David Murman)
)
s/ Thom Walsh)

Filed: April 5, 2024

Attest: s/ Jean Stetter
Green Mountain Care Board
Administrative Services Director

NOTICE TO READERS: This document is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Board (by email, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, so that any necessary corrections may be made.