

Green Mountain Care Board
General Advisory Committee Meeting
February 8, 2021 (2:00 – 4:00 pm)
This meeting was held via Microsoft Teams.

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| Advisory Committee Member Attendees | Walter Carpenter, Michael Durkin, Mark Nunlist, Allison Ebrahimi-Gold, Bob Bick, David Sichel, Jennifer Bertrand, Kathy Mahoney, Laurie Gianturco, Rick Dooley, John Macy, Sharon Gutwin, Jeff McKee, Sam Liss |
| GMCB Attendees | Kevin Mullin, Jessica Holmes, Tom Pelham, Robin Lunge, Maureen Usifer, Susan Barrett, Michael Barber, Russ McCracken, Alena Berube, Christina McLaughlin |
| Other Attendees | Ena Backus, Jennifer Kaulius, Brian Murphy, Kaili Kuiper, Rebecca Copans |

1. COVID-19 Updates

- a. Members were asked to update the Board on the questions below:
 1. How has COVID-19 impacted you and how you a. deliver care (as a provider, physician, nurse, pharmacist, etc.), b. receive care (as a patient), or c. operate your business (hospital, private business, insurer, etc.)?
 2. What are some successful COVID-19 response strategies you have seen deployed, and what can we learn from them?
 3. What changes or improvements would you like to see continue in our health care system beyond COVID-19?
- b. Discussion Notes:
 - Providers noted it has been tough to keep track of the changing COVID-19 recommendations coming from the CDC and the state.
 - Weekly calls with state leaders and Commissioner Levine have been helpful for providers on the call.
 - Many members noted telehealth and audio-only services has helped to improve access a lot and reimbursement for these services need to continue to recruit and retain providers.
 - There is a considerable amount of stress on providers and staff, increasing burnout.

2. Discussion: State Actions Achieving Rx Cost-Savings

- a. Members noted it is challenging to tackle out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs due to the complexity of the system. Members suggested putting together the Medicaid population with state employees to give more negotiating power for PBM contracts or have a Drug Review Board create a preferred drug list that crosses multiple health plans for simplicity. Increased transparency was also discussed to lower prescription drug costs.

3. Request for Feedback on Vermont's Health Care Reform Efforts

- a. Ena Backus, Director of Health Care Reform, AHS and Alena Berube Director of Value Based Programs & ACO Regulation, GMCB presented Vermont's All Payer ACO Model and request for public engagement to inform a potential future agreement. Please click [here](#) to view the related presentation. AHS and the GMCB is asking the Advisory Committee members to submit written feedback by April 1, 2021 on 1) what is working in the All-Payer Model, and 2) whether and/or how the state of Vermont should proceed to enhance health care reform

efforts, given the constraints outlined (see slide 19). The Board is also encouraging the general public to comment on this information at any time so that feedback can be considered by the All-Payer Model Signatories: The Governor's Office, the Agency of Human Services, and the Green Mountain Care Board.

- b. Committee members may send written feedback to Susan Barrett (Susan.Barrett@vermont.gov) and Alena Berube (Alena.Berube@vermont.gov). Comments received will be shared with AHS.

4. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

5. Adjourn