

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received on 04/05/2024.

**Name:** Sharon Gutwin

**Topic:** Copley Mid Year Budget Modification and Rate Review

**Comment:** Great board discussion regarding Copley's request for midyear rate increase. The final decision was well thought out. Copley being recognized as a high quality low cost option is an apt justification. Requesting a look back and getting better understanding of their expenses is something I see Copley welcoming and being fully transparent in. Copley working with the board, not in opposition is a good model for other hospitals.

Regarding MVP's presentation...

Early and adequate access to affordable care whether it be physical or mental minimizes need for the most expensive services of hospitals. It is encouraging to see MVP reduce OOP costs for primary care, urgent care and mental health.

This rationale applies to all care that prevents need for more expensive care.

MVP's copays as high as \$100 per PT visit is a barrier. Physical therapy, like mental therapy, requires multiple visits (10 visits on average). Physical therapists are more frequently the first provider of choice to evaluate and treat musculoskeletal issues. Direct access to PT without need of a referral is now common practice. It saves money for patients and their insurer. PT services are less than 1% of an insurer's budget and estimated to save insurers thousands per member. Reducing the financial barrier to low cost high quality care of physical therapy deserves attention.

**Post Comment:** Yes