

**A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.**

**Submit Time:** 5/5/2023

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**Town/City:** Montpelier, Vt

**Topic:** Accountable Care Organization

**Comment:** I was at the GMCB public meeting on May 3 where the 2023 revised OneCare budget was put forth. Due to another zoomer, I had to leave this meeting midway through the presentation as the GMCB was discussing the \$2.9 million in compensation for the ACO management and it made my eyes pop out. I am not sure what a performance-based variable payment is underneath its cloak of jargon, but I would be curious how many CEOs and managers OneCare has to constitute these kind of salaries. I presume that they are not fixed either, but are probably going up next year. I ask this because I work in an organization that has hundreds managers and of employees. Our payroll does not come close to \$2.9 million a year. Since the Vermont premium and taxpayer is paying these salaries, mostly without their knowledge, not to mention all the benefits like health insurance, retirement, paid sick days, and so on, it would be interesting to know exactly who is getting our money, how much, and what they're doing to earn it. It goes without saying that OneCare has given back excessively little in return for what we've been paying these salaries for. To quote a previous commentator, "OneCare has failed to reduce health care costs, slow the rate of growth, improve quality, address the shortage of primary care physicians and community mental health services, or increase the number of Vermonters served by the ACO." If "performance-based variable payment" means pay tied to performance in pursuit of contracted or stated goals, then this \$2.9 million should be going way down. There is no reason why we have to pay so much for so little. It is long past time to end this failed experiment of the ACO and redirect our energies to caring for patients rather than caring for the business and the policy first and the patients being treated as "consumers."

**Post Comment:** Yes