

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
1:00 pm

Attendance

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair
Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director
Michael Barber, General Counsel
Robin Lunge, JD, MHCDS
Maureen Usifer
Jessica Holmes, PhD
Tom Pelham

Executive Director's Report

Chair Kevin Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Susan Barrett announced that the report on the evaluation of social service integration with accountable care organizations was submitted by the GMCB to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on December 1, 2019. On January 1, 2020, the GMCB will submit the report on the impact of prescription drug costs on health insurance premiums. On January 15, 2020, the GMCB will submit the primary care spend report, the cost shift report imbedded in the annual report, the Rural Health Services Task Force report, and the GMCB annual report including the information on the expenditure analysis. The reports can be found [here](#) on the GMCB website.

Minutes

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from December 11, 2019.

2020 Medicare Benchmark Recommendation – Potential Vote

Sarah Lindberg, Health Services Researcher, GMCB

Sarah Lindberg explained the targets of the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) payer programs and the targets of the All-Payer Model. For the All-Payer Model, the average financial growth from 2017 to 2020 should be less than or equal to 3.5% and the average Medicare growth from 2017 to 2020 should be less than or equal to 3.75% (0.2% below how Medicare was expected to grow nationally).

The Medicare spending financial target for an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) participating in Vermont's All-Payer Model agreement determines the amount of shared savings or losses. Each year, new targets must be set prospectively for two sub-populations for Medicare beneficiaries aligned to the ACO, the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) population and all other Medicare beneficiaries. The ACO Medicare Benchmark is calculated based on the previous

years' medical claims spending, the number of ACO-aligned beneficiaries, and the annual rate of expected growth adopted by the GMCB.

The GMCB staff recommended a Non-End Stage Renal Disease (Non-ESRD) trend rate of 3.5%, an ESRD trend rate of 2.9%, and to include \$8.4 million dollars in Advanced Shared Savings for continued investments in Blueprint for Health and the SASH program. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. Board Member Maureen Usifer asked questions that Sarah Lindberg answered. Board Member Robin Lunge made a motion to approve the 2020 Medicare Benchmark as recommended by the staff. Board Member Tom Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Public Comment

None

Accountable Care Organization Oversight – FY 2020 Final Recommendations – Potential Vote

Alena Berube, Director of Value Based Programs & ACO Regulation, GMCB
Melissa Miles, Deputy Director of Value Based Programs & ACO Regulation, GMCB
Marisa Melamed, Health Care Policy – Associate Director, GMCB

Alena Berube introduced the presentation. Melissa Miles reviewed what the All-Payer Model Agreement is and what OneCare Vermont's role is in the agreement. Alena Berube reviewed OneCare's budget growth and the Delivery System Reform (DSR) funding that OneCare receives from state and federal sources. Marisa Melamed reviewed the salaries and administrative costs of OneCare Vermont, the quality measures in OneCare's payer contracts, and how the GMCB monitors quality. Alena Berube reviewed the follow-up items from the presentation on December 11, 2019, including the budget components, the support for a QHP rate of 6.04%, and the updated hospital risk charts.

Marisa Melamed reviewed the GMCB staff budget recommendations numbered one through four. Alena Berube reviewed the recommendations numbered five through twelve. Melissa Miles reviewed the recommendations numbered thirteen through twenty-three. Alena Berube reviewed the next steps in the oversight of the ACO. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. The Board Members had a discussion on ACO oversight. Board Member Robin Lunge made a motion to approve the 2020 ACO budget with the recommendations from the GMCB staff. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Public Comment

Walter Carpenter
Dale Hackett
Ham Davis

GMCB Analytic Team's Proposed Research and Reporting Priorities for 2020-2021

Kathryn O'Neill, Director Data Management Analysis and Data Integrity, GMCB
Lindsay Kill, Healthcare Data and Statistical Analyst, GMCB

Kate O'Neill presented the work and responsibilities of the GMCB's analytic team and the GMCB Data Governance Council's stewardship of data. Lindsay Kill discussed the development of the key priorities of the GMCB analytic team's research and reporting for 2020-2021. The GMCB staff surveyed each Board Member individually and the two themes that emerged were process improvements for materials produced by the analytic team and analytical and reporting priorities. There were three projects proposed that were research based: patient origin analysis, price variation analysis, and integration of regulatory decision-making in data. The fourth project proposed was enhancing shared understanding of the Vermont Health Care Uniform Reporting and Evaluation System (VHCURES) and the Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Data System (VUHDDS). Lindsay Kill discussed the purpose and timeline of each project. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. The Board Members asked questions and had a discussion with Lindsay Kill.

Public Comment

Dale Hackett
Stephanie Breault

Old Business

Board Member Robin Lunge announced that the Rural Health Services Task Force will be accepting public comment on the draft of recommendations to the Legislature. The draft will be posted [here](#) on the GMCB website once complete.

New Business

None

Adjourn

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 2:40 pm.