



**COLORADO**

Department of  
Regulatory Agencies

Division of Insurance

## Colorado Option Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2022, 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Kyla Hoskins called the meeting to order at 3:33 PM.

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

- Present (6): Jennifer Fanning, Adam Fox, Amanda Massey, Kevin Stansbury, Dr. Reginald Washington, and Chris Zivalich
- Absent (4): Valerie Larson, Andy Jacob, Dr. Qaiser Kahn, and Bianey Bermudez

Others present from the Division of Insurance (DOI) included Kyle Brown and Kyla Hoskins. Angela Little attended from the Attorney General's Office.

**August Meeting Minutes.** The August 24, 2022 Advisory Board meeting minutes were approved, as presented (5 votes in favor, 1 abstention).

**2023 Plan Filing Update.** Kyle Brown gave an update on the recent announcement from the Division on Bright Health leaving the individual market nationwide. Board Members asked questions on how this market exit may impact urban areas as far as lay offs. Board Members also asked how many insurance companies are now offering plans in 2023 in the individual market. Kyla Hoskins provided the Advisory Board with a status update on the Division's 2023 plan and rate filing approval process. Board Members asked questions regarding network adequacy, specifically on the requirements under the Colorado Option law.

**Connect for Health Colorado Presentation.** Ezra Watland, Director of Communications and Marketing Strategy at Connect for Health Colorado (Colorado's health insurance marketplace) gave an update on the Marketplace's efforts to support the implementation of Colorado Option plans for the 2023 Open Enrollment Period. Board Members asked questions on how outreach will be handled for rural communities.

**Quality & Acuity.** Kyle Brown presented on the Division's statutory requirements to study whether a quality and/or acuity metric should be captured in the Division's provider reimbursement methodology. Board Members stated that there are many ratings and comparisons when it comes to determining "quality," and cautioned that there is no gold standard for measuring it. Members encouraged the Division to avoid introducing a new standard for measuring quality, and suggested leveraging the Colorado Hospital Transformation Program (although there was some discussion on how transparent the program has been in its efforts with rural communities). Board Members also asked



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questions on how quality and acuity metrics look at demographics served, and how any quality and acuity metric could support increasing racial health equity.

**Board Elections.** Adam Fox nominated himself for Chair of the Board, it was moved and seconded, and approved by a vote of 5-0 (1 abstention). Chris Zivalich nominated himself for Vice Chair of the Board, it was moved and seconded, and approved by a vote of 5-0 (1 abstention).

**Public comment.** Megan Axelrod from the Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) offered CHA as a resource for the Colorado Hospital Transformation Program and agreed with Board comments on alignment to existing quality measures.

Erica Pike from the Colorado Academy for Family Physicians stated that this conversation on metrics [quality metrics] should be in parallel not separate from the 1325 Primary Care APM Alignment Initiative.

Meagan Fearing stated that in talking about the stick vs. the carrot from Medicare and Medicaid, we also want to look at the unintended consequences to consumers that each of those programs' approaches to this quality care metric issue has caused. For example, with Medicare they have seen a huge increase in "observation" status for patients, rather than re-admission. Meagan stated that Medicare won't pay on observation status claims nor will Medicare Supplements or other wrap coverages, which ends up leaving the patient with huge bills. Surprise billing also does not address this issue clearly.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.