Workers' Compensation Medical Services Review Committee Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2022

I. Call to order

Director of Workers' Compensation Charles Collins, Chair of the Medical Services Review Committee, called the Committee to order at 9:04 am on Friday, July 15, 2022. The meeting was held by telephone and video conference.

II. Roll call

Director Collins conducted a roll call. The following Committee members were present, constituting a quorum:

Dr. Mary Ann Foland Jeffery Gilbert Susan Kosinski Mason McCloskey

Valerie Mittelstead Jeffery Moore Misty Steed

Member Pam Scott was excused. Director Collins introduced senior staff present, and Carla Gee and Nan Orme with Optum.

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by member Gilbert and seconded by member Foland. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

IV. Review of Minutes

A motion to approve the May 25, 2022 and June 24, 2022 meeting minutes was made by member Foland and seconded by member Kosinski. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Fee Schedule Guidelines Development Discussion

Director Collins presented the draft MSRC recommendation report.

Carla Gee of Optum presented physical therapy utilization guidelines by state. The committee discussed utilization guidelines for Alaska. Member Steed reported that she spoke with Physical Therapy Group regarding utilization and they provided recommendations.

Break 10:11 am - 10:15 am

VI. Public Comment

Written public comment was received from the Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association (AHHA), regarding inflation of labor and non-labor costs. Member Gilbert presented the comments.

VII. Fee Schedule Guidelines Development Discussion, continued

The committee discussed conversion factors. Director Collins presented data from the September 2021 NCCI Alaska Medical Data Report. Member Foland moved to make no changes to the existing conversion factors for calendar year 2023 and member McCloskey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee continued discussion of guidelines for physical therapy and other ongoing treatments and discussed injured worker non-compliance. Optum will provide draft language for discussion at the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Kosinski and seconded by Member Gilbert. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 12:10 pm