

School Employees' Health Benefits Program

Plan Design Committee

Open Session Minutes: June 22, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Committee filed with and prominently posted in the offices of the Secretary of State. A meeting notice was mailed to the Secretary of State, Star Ledger and the Trenton Times on December 26, 2019.

The meeting of the School Employees' Health Benefits Program Plan Design Committee of New Jersey was called to order on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

The text of Resolution B (Executive Session) – was read in its entirety in the event that the Committee desires, at any point in the meeting, to approve a motion to go into closed session.

Acting Secretary Ludwig took Roll Call and established that a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Committee Members:

Julie Giordano Plotkin, NJEA

Kevin Kelleher, NJEA

John Megariotis, Director, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Jennifer Keyes-Maloney, Assistant Treasurer

Donna Chiera, AFT/AFL-CIO

Absent:

David Ridolfino- Director Office of Management and Budget

Also Present:

Christin Deacon, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Andrew Lawson, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Nicole Ludwig, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Christopher Meyer, Deputy Attorney General

Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Keyes-Maloney made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 30, 2020. Committee Member Chiera seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

COVID-19 Division Updates

Assistant Director Christin Deacon provided an update regarding an online benefits administration platform. This will be accessible to the members in one central location or portal. Mrs. Deacon explained that CO letters will be issued as more information is available. She stated the vendor is BusinessSovler, training will be offered to the Certifying officers, as well as Division Staff once contracts are finalized.

Mrs. Deacon provided an update regarding the updated Doc and hospital provider directory on Horizon's website. She stated it helps to find, and book appointments with a high value of care. She added there is a tremendous uptick in the participation on NJWell webinars and sources.

Mrs. Deacon provided the statistics regarding COVID for the Active and Early retiree SHBP/SEHBP population. She stated that from March 2, 2020 through June 14, 2020 the plan has covered 6,100 COVID molecular tests with about 2,000 positive cases. There have been 800 antibody tests with a total of 150 positive tests. From a claims cost perspective, 4.8 percent of claims are related to COVID, she stated this includes testing and treatments. In total for the week of June 14, 2020 the plan paid a total of \$3.1 million for both SHBP/SEHBP.

The total Telemedicine claims from March 2, 2020 through June 14, 2020 the plan paid \$1.5 million for COVID related claims and \$35.1 million for non-COVID related claims. She stated the Claims count is almost 14,000 for COVID related telemedicine visits, and 300,000 non-COVID telemedicine claims in the same timeframe.

Mrs. Deacon stated the Medicare Advantage population from March 1, 2020 through June 7, 2020 has paid \$10.4 million in COVID claims which include testing and treatment. There were approximately 9,290 tests performed. There have been 2,000 COVID related telemedicine claims and 125,000 non-COVID telemedicine claims.

Chairperson Kelleher asked what impact COVID will have on the rate setting in the fall. Mrs. Deacon stated that AON will be working on the rates, and the rates will be adjusted as necessary to account for COVID. Michele Engle of AON stated that most of the rate setting data would be 2018 claims.

Paladina Health Update:

Ben Stapleton of Paladina reviewed the presentation provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting. During the presentation Mr. Stapleton stated that there was a large outreach to those high risk patients to ensure that they were aware of the virtual visits, and to ensure that there was a touch base. Dr.

Jiwani of Paladina gave a first account of experiences during the pandemic with her patients. She stated that she had several new patients who joined because of webinars. She stated that several new patients also joined because their primary care physicians were not offering virtual visits and the patients were scared.

Chairperson Kelleher asked that Paladina and R-Health both go over enrollment statistics, as well as what has been done to encourage enrollment? Mr. Stapleton said he will work with Mrs. Deacon to get the requested information to the Committee Members. He added that Paladina has been working with the Division and Horizon to initiate a collaborative marketing strategy.

R-Health Updates

Mason Reiner of R-Health reviewed the presentation provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting. Mr. Reiner stated that R-health did a cost analysis for the 1,700 members over a two year period, this is then compared to the 24 months prior to joining R-Health. He stated this shows that there is a reduction in cost by 23 percent. Mr. Reiner stated that he would provide the Commission with the requested enrollment statistics.

Mr. Reiner stated that R-Health remained open during the pandemic for any essential in-person care but attempted to conduct most appointment virtually. He stated there was a large spike in virtual visits in April and May, but June is showing an increase to in-person visits. He added that R-Health has conducted several virtual events via Facebook which have had a large turnout.

Chairperson Kelleher asked what the term "engagement" referred to. Mr. Reiner stated engagement is defined as a member who visited with in the last 12 months at least once.

Adjournment

Having no further matters to discuss, Chairperson Kevin Kelleher made a motion to adjourn, Committee member John Megariotis seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:20am

Respectfully Submitted,



Nicole Ludwig
Acting Secretary SEHBP PDC

