



The Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) Meeting

June 4, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Attendance and Minutes

Commission Members Present: Dr. Nancy Fan (Chair), Theodore W. Becker (Mayor of Lewes), Robert Dunleavy (DSCYF), Secretary Rick Geisenberger (DOF), Richard Heffron, Dr. Jan Lee (DHIN), Nick Moriello (Highmark), Trinidad Navarro (DOI), and Secretary Dr. Kara Odom Walker (DHSS)

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Nancy Fan (Chair)

Commission Members Not Present: Melissa Jones

Health Care Commission Staff: Elisabeth Massa (Executive Director), Ayanna Harrison (Public Health Administrator I), and Marques Johnson (Administrative Specialist III)

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Fan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. via Webex video and phone conference. The meeting started with an attendance roll call to check if the commissioners were all on the line. All commissioners were present except for Melissa Jones. Dr. Fan asked public attendees to virtually sign-in by sending their name and contact information to the DHCC Resource Account (dhcc@delaware.gov).

Approval of May 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Dr. Fan asked the commissioners to review the May 7, 2020, meeting minutes. Dr. Jan Lee motioned to approve the minutes, and Robert Dunleavy second the motion. All commissioners present approved the minutes.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Delaware Health Care Spending Benchmark: Results of Preliminary Calendar Year 2018 Baseline Spending Analysis

Dr. Kara Odom Walker (DHSS Secretary) presented an update on the Health Care Spending Benchmark. She provided a summary of the preliminary Calendar Year 2018 Spending Benchmark data. This summer/fall the DHCC will be collecting Calendar Year 2019 data and also recollecting Calendar Year 2018 data from insurers.

To start her presentation, Dr. Walker shared a brief history and recap of the spending and quality benchmark initiative. The spending benchmark, effective January 1, 2019, is a target value for the change from the prior year in statewide per capita health care spending. As a target value and goal, it is not a cap or limit to spending, and it is important to put context year over year. The baseline data presented is simply the baseline data to compare.

The DHCC collected preliminary Calendar Year 2018 benchmark spending data from insurers. Quality benchmark data was not collected or required at this point in time.

COLLECTION OF PRELIMINARY CY 2018 BENCHMARK SPENDING DATA

- Collecting preliminary CY 2018 benchmark spending data enabled DHCC and insurers to gain experience with the data collection process and identify opportunities for process improvement. Data sources:

Market/Spending Component	Data Source	Data Collected
Medicare	CMS and Insurers	FFS and managed care including drug spending and limited pharmacy rebate data (from Insurers only)
Medicaid	DMMA and Insurers	FFS and managed care including pharmacy rebate data
Commercial	Insurers	Medical/service expenditures including pharmacy rebate data
Veterans Health Administration	VA website	Summarized data from the US Department of Veterans Affairs
Net Cost of Private Health Insurance	Insurer or public reports	Summary level data on revenues and expenses

DHCC PRESENTATION ON HEALTH CARE SPENDING BENCHMARK

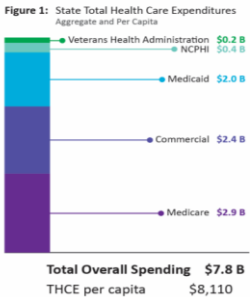
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Dr. Walker shared the data collection process was very informative and an important exercise for the baseline year. Some preliminary data shows there are some inconsistencies across the payers of how data was submitted. The DHCC is looking forward to strengthening future data collection processes and analysis. The DHCC will be revising data collection specifications to improve consistency across the payers. Due to methodological differences, this data should not be compared to other sources of Delaware spending.

Dr. Walker shared a summary of Delaware’s overall health care spending for Calendar Year 2018 preliminary data. The Total Health Care Expenditures were approximately \$7.8 billion or \$8,110 per Delawarean. A breakdown of this spending data was provided on slide #6:

DELAWARE OVERALL HEALTH CARE SPENDING – CY 2018 PRELIMINARY DATA

- Total Health Care Expenditures were approximately \$7.8 billion or \$8,110 per Delawarean. Values are rounded.
- By market and component:
 - Medicare (FFS and managed care): 36.8% of spending
 - Commercial (fully and self-insured): 31.2% of spending
 - Medicaid (FFS and managed care): 25.1% of spending
 - Net Cost of Private Health Insurance (NCPHI): 4.5% of spending*
 - Veterans Health Administration: 2.5% of spending



DHCC PRESENTATION ON HEALTH CARE SPENDING BENCHMARK

* Medicare FFS, Medicaid FFS and Veterans Health Administration does not have NCPHI, so expressed as a percentage of THCE. NCPHI is relatively low.

A similar slide will be created for Calendar Year 2019 data once the data is collected by the DHCC. The 2018 and 2019 data will then be compared and analyzed for trends, etc. The 2018 preliminary baseline data was also collected by service category and market.

Dr. Walker concluded her presentation outlining the next steps of the benchmark initiative:

NEXT STEPS

- In the coming weeks, DHCC will issue a data request and announcement of webinar(s) to support this year's data collection process.
- CY 2018 data will be collected again along with CY 2019 data based on updated specifications.
- DEFAC will be reviewing the CY 2021 spending benchmark target percentage later this year.
- CY 2019 report on the spending and quality benchmarks is targeted for release in 1Q2021.

DHCC PRESENTATION ON HEALTH CARE SPENDING BENCHMARK 10

Dr. Walker's presentation is available on the DHCC's website at:

https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/files/despndngbnchmrkpres2018_060420.pdf

Dr. Fan asked if the commissioners had any questions for Dr. Walker and commented it was good to see how the initiative has been progressing. She also mentioned how the Primary Care Reform Collaborative has been able to receive voluntary data from the self-insured, large employer plans. Dr. Fan agreed with Dr. Walker it is important to compare "apples to apples" and having the same values would be very useful.

Rich Heffron shared his compliments to Dr. Walker and staff and commented that the benchmark work thus far was well done and a great start. He said he would share the report with the business chambers throughout the state so their members could access.

Commissioner Navarro (DOI) asked Dr. Walker what the biggest surprise was in the data collected. Dr. Walker mentioned that she was surprised and encouraged by the difference in service categories by market. She said it will be helpful to compliment this analysis with the Health Care Claims Database. Although the data sets will have different components, it will be helpful to understand how variations come about, what are the drivers, and be able to understand the policy implications.

Dr. Jan Lee offered that DHIN may be helpful for defining primary care with their relationship to practices.

Public Comment:

Dr. Marshà Horton (Delaware State University) asked if there was comparative data being collected to compare Delaware to national health care spending and other developed countries. Dr. Walker said the benchmark data the DHCC collects is not set up to compare, however, when there is the healthcare

benchmark, the DHCC will be able to use that percentage to compare to national and international trends and growth in health care spending. Dr. Horton also asked if there were plans to report the data as disaggregated. Fred Gibson (Mercer, LLC) responded that the information in Dr. Walker's presentation will be released in a larger report with additional details and at this point in time, there are no plans to release the underlining data as some of the data is sensitive.

Steven Costantino (DHSS) responded to Dr. Lee's earlier comments. He shared DHSS is working in collaboration with the Department of Insurance and Freedman Healthcare on primary care definitions and codes.

Hearing no additional public comment, Dr. Fan moved on to Board Business and asked Commissioner Navarro if he would like a few minutes to speak.

Commissioner Navarro commented about telehealth and telemedicine which he believes in the future for primary care. He shared DOI is working with the insurers to make sure telehealth remains and is reimbursed. Legislative changes will need to be made. He also addressed complaints DOI has received about Medicare supplement plans and rate increases. DOI was able to address the issue.

Dr. Fan asked how COVID-19 and people losing jobs and insurance would affect the Marketplace. Commissioner Navarro expressed disappointment there was no opportunity for a special enrollment period because Delaware is on the federal exchange. He shared the rates for the Marketplace for the next enrollment period appear promising. Nick Moriello added that Highmark has seen increased activity of individuals losing insurance from job loss. He mentioned that Highmark continues to try and support these individuals by helping them evaluate all their options to find solutions that they may not have known are available (federal assistance, Medicaid, etc.). Secretary Geisenberger and Dr. Walker added a few comments about Medicaid eligibility and what that uptick might be.

UPDATES

Annual Report

Dr. Fan discussed the DHCC Annual Report. The commissioners received a draft of the report in advance to the meeting. The report highlights the Commission's activities and programs in Calendar Year 2019. The DHCC intended to release the report in the first quarter of 2020, however, with COVID-19, the release of the report has been delayed.

Dr. Fan discussed the action items identified in the 2019 Strategic Retreat and asked the commissioners to think about a work plan for the second half of 2020. Action items include workforce, professional licensure, and being more patient centered. The Annual Report will be shared with members of the General Assembly and the Governor's office. The Annual Report will also be posted on the DHCC website.

Dr. Fan's Annual Report slides are available at:

<https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/files/annualrptslides060420.pdf>

Delaware Healthcare Workforce Assessment Initiative

Dr. Fan shared information about a Delaware Academy of Medicine, Delaware Public Health Association, and the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, joint project that is collecting and analyzing data healthcare workforce data in Delaware. The primary source of data for this research was obtained from the Delaware Division of Professional Licensure. Dr. Fan shared a few slides from the project: <https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/files/dehlthcrewrkfrceassesinit060420.pdf>

Dr. Fan shared that she and Elisabeth Massa spoke with Tim Gibbs (Academy of Medicine) and Dr. Omar Khan (Delaware Health Sciences Alliance) about how the Commission could utilize the data or conduct a deeper dive as the Commission looks at workforce. There are broad data analysis questions that can be derived from this research.

Secretary Geisenberger commented the data was a great starting point and was wondering if a national analysis has been conducted for a comparison to surrounding states, especially neighboring state counties. Dr. Fan shared the primary care physician workforce survey conducted by the University of Delaware contains some helpful data. Also, at the Commissioner's Strategic Retreat in November 2019, the Commission discussed wanting more robust data. If that is the direction the Commission would like to take, the DHCC staff can pursue research.

Dr. Fan asked Secretary Geisenberger about the status of the Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program (HCPLRP). Dr. Walker shared the 1% discretionary items were recommended to be removed and would have to check if HCPLRP was included as discretionary. Dr. Walker also wanted to underscore the importance to understand our health care workforce and creating a robust survey around licensure could be very helpful.

Secretary Geisenberger shared he received a notice during the meeting that HCPLRP was in the enhancement category of the budget and removed from the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

Public Comment

Cheryl Heiks (Delaware Health Care Facilities Association) commented that she supported the Commission's focus on workforce initiatives. She also shared the waivers for telehealth have been very helpful for the health care facilities industry.

Primary Care Reform Collaborative (PCRC)

Dr. Fan provided a brief update about the Primary Care Reform Collaborative (PCRC). The Annual Report for the PCRC was approved at the last meeting. It contained several recommendations – the definitions of primary care and primary care spend. A technical subcommittee was also created and will start working with Freedman HealthCare and the Department of Insurance Office of Value-Based Health Care Delivery. She mentioned she would like to see the PCRC make recommendations for an Alternative Payment Model. Dr. Fan also commented the biggest challenge identified in the PCRC Annual Report is the concept of annual funding and how primary care is funded. The PCRC will meet again on June 15.

Health Resource Board (HRB)

Dr. Fan provided an update about the Health Resources Board (HRB) Sunset review process. With the COVID-19 pandemic cutting short the Sunset committee's work, all 2019 and 2020 review entities are held over to 2021. HRB is officially held over until January 2021. The committee analysts will publish a draft 2020 Final Report on the Sunset website by July 1, 2020. Ted Becker mentioned as the need for services grow and facilities expand, it is important the board is adequately filled.

ADJOURN

Dr. Fan announced the DHCC will host a DE 1332 State Innovation Waiver Public Forum on Monday, June 22 at 1pm. Per CMS, within six months of the waiver's effective date and annually thereafter, the state will afford the public an opportunity to provide meaningful comment on the progress of the waiver.

Dr. Fan asked the commissioners if there was interest in moving the July meeting a week later and cancelling the August meeting. The commissioners are to email their preference to Elisabeth Massa.

Public Comment:

Anthony Onugu (United Medical LLC) suggested that it would be helpful for ACOs to share their experience in assisting primary care practices to telemedicine. Dr. Fan asked if the ACOs had individually met. Mr. Onugu mentioned that they have had some meetings and discussions.

Dr. Fan encouraged attendees to check the [State of Delaware Public Calendar](#) for DHCC meeting location and updates.

Hearing no other business or public comment, Dr. Fan adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:47 a.m.

Public Meeting Attendees 06/04/2020

Randy Munson	United Medicaid LLC
Brian Olson	La Red Health Care
Victoria Brennan	Delaware General Assembly
Mary Fenimore	Medical Society of Delaware
Mary Perkins	MACHC Goeins-Williams Associates
Bill Howard	BDC – Health
John Dodd	BDC – Health
Christiana Bryan	Delaware Healthcare Association
Anthony Onugu	UMACO
Lolita Lopez	Westside Family Healthcare
John Gentile	Senator Carper
Pamela Gardner	Delaware Health Sciences Alliance
Carolanne O'Brien	

Corinne Armann
Nina Figueroa
Amanda Bailey
Christopher Manning
Cheryl Heiks
Deborah Hamilton
Fred Gibison
James Grant
Joseph Leary
Kiki Evinger
Lisa Goodwin
Pamela Kinley
Patricia Redmond
Ryan Forman
Sheila Grant
Steven Costantino
Wayne Smith

Statewide Benefits Office

Nemours
Delaware Health Care Facilities Association
Hamilton Goodman Partners
Mercer
DHSS

DHSS
Hamilton Goodman Partners
Highmark Delaware

Governor's Office
DHSS
Delaware Healthcare Association