



MINUTES OF THE MEDICAID PROVIDER RATE REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPRRAC)

The Colorado Department of Health Care
Policy and Financing
303 East 17th Avenue, 7th Floor Conference Room

Friday, May 18, 2018
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Audio from the full meeting can be accessed via
<https://cohcpf.adobeconnect.com/pb9o5dp6fceq/>. This document contains a high-level
summary of discussions during the meeting.

1. MPRRAC Members Present (in person or via phone)

Rebecca Craig, Rob DeHerrera, Tim Dienst, Jennifer Dunn, Lisa Foster, Chris Hinds, Gretchen McGinnis, Dixie Melton, Wilson Pace, Jeff Perkins, Tom Rose, Tia Saucedo, Arthur Schut, David Smart, Barbara Wilkins-Crowder, Murray Willis, Jody Wright

2. Agenda Review

Committee members approved meeting minutes from February 16, 2018. Lila Cummings, the Department's Rate Review Stakeholder Relations Specialist, noted that Bill Munson has been nominated by the Colorado Hospital Association to replace Deborah Hart. Lila also noted that technical issues had prevented certain communication between the Department and committee members.

3. Rate Setting Methodology 101

Randie DeHerrera, the Department's Rate Operations Section manager, gave a presentation regarding the Department's rate setting methodology. Her presentation outlined the goals of rate setting, as well as the input components involved during rate setting. For more information, see the slides from the [May 18th MPRRAC PowerPoint Presentation](#) (slides 4-15).

4. 2018 Analysis Report Introduction and Discussion

Discussion focused on results from the [2018 Medicaid Provider Rate Review Analysis Report](#). Lila outlined the purpose for each of the three MPRRAC meetings over the summer and outlined how the day's discussion could proceed.

While the initial plan was for committee members to develop preliminary recommendations for physical and occupational therapy services and evaluation & management and primary care, committee members decided to extend the July 20th MPRRAC meeting to develop preliminary

recommendations for all year three services.

Physical and Occupational Therapies

Most discussion focused on the deconsolidation of the physical therapy evaluation code.¹ Throughout the meeting it became clear that there was a miscommunication regarding the nature of the code deconsolidation: some stakeholders and committee members believed the Department thought the deconsolidation was, for these specific codes, budget neutral. The Department clarified that was not the Department's position. Instead, the Department stated the current procedure codes, which consider complexity and time, were set using appropriate rate setting methodologies.

Some stakeholders and committee members commented that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) had not yet set different rates for the deconsolidated codes, and that CMS had indicated it was going to wait and observe utilization before adjusting rates.

Discussion also focused on issues with billing guidance. Wilson Pace, the committee vice-chair, noted that, while not a Colorado Medicaid-specific concern, there seems to be a lack of guidance at the national level regarding when the deconsolidated codes should be billed.

Committee members said that, in order to make a more informed recommendation, additional utilization information would be helpful. Lila committed to providing more information ahead of the next MPRRAC meeting. There was also a request for updated rate comparison scatterplots. Lila said she could provide those before the July 20th MPRRAC meeting.

Evaluation & Management and Primary Care

Committee members asked for some clarification regarding the 1202 bump and the Department's new Alternative Payment Methodology (APM). Department staff provided clarification regarding payments for certain codes that fall under the APM.

5. Next Steps

Committee members determined that they would like more information regarding the physical therapy evaluation deconsolidation. Committee members also decided to extend the July 20th meeting to allow for recommendation development.

There was also a discussion regarding the Colorado General Assembly's Joint Budget Committee's (JBC) adoption of Department and MPRRAC recommendations. Some committee members had concerns that the JBC was ignoring recommendations. Other committee members voiced an opinion that they felt the JBC and the Department had been more open in adopting recommendations.

6. Meeting Adjourned

¹ For reference, beginning January 2017, the physical therapy evaluation procedure code (97001) was deleted and replaced with three codes that contain more specific descriptions based on visit times and complexity (97161, 97162, 97163).