

**MINUTES OF THE CARE DELIVERY AND PAYMENT SYSTEM  
TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting of July 2, 2014

**MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION**

**CARE DELIVERY AND PAYMENT SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE  
MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION  
One Ashburton Place  
21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA**

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**Docket: Wednesday, July 2, 2014, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

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**PROCEEDINGS**

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission's (HPC) Care Delivery and Payment System Transformation (CDPST) Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at One Ashburton Place, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, Boston, MA.

Members present were Dr. Carole Allen (Chair), Dr. David Cutler, and Ms. Marylou Sudders.

Ms. Jean Yang and Dr. Ann Hwang, representing Mr. John Polanowicz, Secretary of Health and Human Services, arrived late.

**ITEM 1: Approval of minutes**

Dr. Allen asked if any committee members had changes for the minutes from the June 11, 2014 CDPST meeting. Seeing none, **Dr. Allen** made the motion to approve the minutes. After consideration noted and duly seconded by **Dr. Cutler**, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes. Voting in the affirmative were the three members present. There were no abstentions or votes in opposition.

**ITEM 2: Discussion of Regulation for the Registration of Provider Organizations (RPO) Program**

Dr. Allen stated that, at the last meeting, staff presented on public comment received for the proposed RPO regulation. She thanked the public for their involvement in this process.

Dr. Allen introduced Mr. Iyah Romm, Director for System Performance and Strategic Investment, to present an update on the RPO program. She noted that staff would ask the committee to vote to endorse the regulations.

**ITEM 2a: Background and Program Development Timeline**

Mr. Romm stated that the RPO program is a transparency tool that will bring insight and data to new areas of the health care market. He stated that the RPO program examines service lines and capacity, operational structure, and financial information. Mr. Romm added that these relationships are examined with clinical, corporate, and contracting affiliations.

Mr. Romm noted that the underlying principles of the development of the RPO program include reducing the administrative burden and working with other governmental and non-governmental entities to avoid duplication.

Mr. Romm briefly reviewed the RPO program development timeline. He noted that there has been extensive stakeholder engagement. He stated that this process is not finished, but that staff is excited to release the proposed regulation and the data submission manual.

## **ITEM 2b: Recommended updates to regulation in response to public comment**

Mr. Romm introduced Ms. Kara Vidal, Program Manager for System Performance, to provide an update on public comment.

At this point, Dr. Hwang and Ms. Yang arrived at the meeting.

Ms. Vidal reviewed changes to various definitions in the regulation. She noted that many of these changes were driven by comments asking for clarity around relationships between provider organizations.

Ms. Vidal noted that the proposed regulation includes a streamlined registration process for qualified provider organizations and greater flexibility in setting registration deadlines. She added that the HPC will continue to work with the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) and the Division of Insurance (DOI) on the registration process.

Ms. Vidal reviewed the scenarios in which provider organizations would have to update their status with the HPC. She stated off-cycle updates would be necessary when changes (1) require a material change notice to the HPC; (2) require the filing of a determination of need to the Department of Public Health (DPH); (3) affect an essential service as defined by DPH; or (4) affect information on provided to the HPC in a prior registration cycle.

Ms. Vidal added that the proposed regulation allows providers and provider organizations to request further review if the HPC determines (1) that the provider organization is required to register or (2) that the provider organization's application is incomplete.

Ms. Vidal reviewed the comments that were not incorporated into the proposed regulation. She noted that many of these were issues that would be addressed in the RPO Data Submission Manual (DSM). She noted that the HPC staff is not proposing changes to the DSM at this time as the document will be continuously amended through the fall.

Ms. Vidal reviewed comments on full time equivalent (FTE) reporting for facilities and practices sites. She stated that the HPC did not integrate these comments into the proposed regulation because this reporting is a statutory obligation. Mr. Romm noted that the law is very specific in this regard. He noted that the HPC staff is committed to obtaining FTE rosters in year one implementation.

Ms. Vidal noted that the Massachusetts Hospital Association (MHA) and the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) would offer educational and training sessions for provider organizations. She added that the HPC staff would offer one-on-one training sessions with provider organizations in the coming months. Ms. Vidal encouraged constant communication with provider organizations throughout the registration process. She stated that any provider organization with questions could contact the staff directly at [HPC-RPO@state.ma.us](mailto:HPC-RPO@state.ma.us).

### **Item 2c: Initial Registration Part 1 Timeline**

Ms. Vidal stated that the initial registration will occur in two parts. Part 1 will ask for very high-level background information on the provider organization and its contracting affiliates.

Dr. Hwang asked for clarification on the information requested from contracting affiliates. Ms. Vidal stated that Part 1 asks for the name of any organization on whose behalf the provider organization contracts. She stated that no specific information about the relationship would be requested in Part 1.

Ms. Vidal provided a brief overview of key deadlines for Part 1 Initial Registration. She stated that staff anticipated releasing Part 1 of the Data Submission Manual in the coming months. She added that initial registration would run from October 1, 2014 to November 14, 2014. At this point, HPC staff would review information gathered to release Part 2 Initial Registration in early 2015.

Ms. Yang asked for clarification on the early use of the data gathered in the registry. Mr. Romm stated that the first goal is to understand the landscape of the Massachusetts care delivery market. He stated that the second goal is to glean a better understanding of organization structures. This will inform the HPC's work on the certification of accountable care organizations and other models of care delivery.

Ms. Yang stated that this is an exciting learning opportunity for the HPC

Mr. Romm stated that this concluded the staff's presentation on the RPO program. He noted that the regulation is reflective of the stated principles of the program and HPC's statutory requirements

Dr. Allen asked for further comment. Seeing none, she thanked the staff for their work on this program and called for a motion to endorse the proposed RPO program regulation and move it to the full commission. **Dr. Hwang** made the motion and **Ms. Yang** seconded. The committee unanimously approved the regulations. Voting in the affirmative were the five members present. There were no abstentions or votes in opposition.

### **ITEM 3: Adjournment**

Seeing no further comment, Dr. Allen announced the schedule of the next committee meeting (August 13, 2014) and adjourned the meeting at 11:29 A.M.