

Physical Medicine Management Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2013

7:00 – 8:30 am

I. Call to Order

Melissa Horner, MD, Physician Advisor and Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 am

II. Roll Call:

Completed by Chairperson Melissa Horner, MD

Participants:

Western PA:

John Bonaroti, PT, ATC, East Suburban Sports Medicine Center Ltd.
Paul J. Brach, PT, PJB Therapy Services, LLC
Richard Ross, DC, Ross Chiropractic
Melissa Horner, MD, Physician Advisor, Highmark
Michael Owens, MD, Medical Director, Highmark
Julia Falenski, Director, Medical Management & Policy Metrics Plan, Highmark
Charlotte Sarles, Manager, Care Management, Highmark
Melissa Stem, Director, Professional Relations, Highmark
Sharon Zink, Care Manager, Highmark

Central PA:

Sandra McCuen, PT, Reimbursement Specialist, PPTA
Eric Osterberg, DC, Osterberg Chiropractic

III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes:

The Committee reviewed and approved the November 6, 2012, Physical Medicine Management Program Advisory Committee meeting minutes.

IV. Follow up to Action Items:

1. The committee was updated on the revisions to Highmark Medical Policy S-229: Lumbar Laminectomy and Decompression, to become effective February 4, 2013.
2. The committee was informed that meeting minutes will be available on the Provider Resource Center once they have been approved by the committee.
3. Additional discussion took place regarding the number of therapy visits approved during the Authorization Pre-screening.

- **Follow-up Action item:** Provider committee members are to provide additional Highmark specific case examples for further investigation by Highmark staff
4. The committee was informed that a discussion regarding the submission of medical records was held with Healthways.

V. Discussion Related to PMMP:

1. PMMP Advisory Committee update: Michael Owens, Medical Director, Highmark, has replaced Karen Powers, Physician Advisor, Highmark, on the advisory committee.
2. Highmark has extended the PMMP soft implementation through April 30, 2013.
3. The revised Administrative Guide was posted on the Provider Resource Center on January 9, 2013.

Revisions include:

- Initial therapy evaluation and re-evaluation codes were removed from the list of procedures requiring authorization.
 - The retrospective review process has been updated; reviews may now be submitted through Navinet.
 - The distinction between a facility and a professional provider is defined.
4. The Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF) care registration and authorization process is being managed by Healthways, effective January 1, 2013.
 - The group is identified by the alpha prefix "OPB."
 - Reviews are being conducted against Highmark medical policy criteria.
 - A PEBTF-specific care registration has been created to capture the 6 PT, 6 OT, and 6 manipulation visits that do not require review each year.
 - Beginning with the 7th visit of each discipline, a medical necessity review will be required.
 5. It is anticipated that the Functional Rating Index will be discontinued July 1, 2013.
 - **Follow-up Action item:** The provider committee members suggested that a drop-down box feature be added in Navinet containing common validated functional scales. Highmark will discuss the suggestion with Healthways.
 6. A previous discussion regarding the rationale for eight initial care visits via the care registration process was reviewed.

VI. Provider Discussion and Feedback:

1. A discussion ensued regarding member comprehension of the PMMP, as well as ongoing educational opportunities that are available.
2. Healthways' pre-screening documentation requirements and free text field entry capability were discussed.

VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Meetings:

1. The committee requested Highmark's position on the reporting of G-codes (Gxxx8) and Modifiers (CX) for functional limitations for the Medicare Advantage population.

VIII. Outstanding Business:

None

IX. Closing comments:

Dr. Horner thanked everyone for their attendance and for the feedback received regarding the PMMP.

X. Adjournment:

Dr. Horner adjourned the Physical Medicine Management Program Advisory Committee meeting at 8:20 AM.

**The next Physical Medicine Management Program Advisory Committee will be held on
May 7, 2013**