

BYLAWS OF HIGHMARK INC.

EXCERPT REVISED SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

ARTICLE VIII

MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

8.1 General.

8.1.1 All matters, disputes or controversies relating to the professional health services (as defined in 40 Pa.C.S.A. § 6302(a)) rendered by Health Service Doctors to subscribers who have coverage under contracts issued by the Corporation, and any questions involving the professional ethics of such persons, shall be considered and determined exclusively by the committee established pursuant to this Article VIII in accordance with the requirements of 40 Pa.C.S.A. § 6324(c) (the "Medical Review Committee") to provide a fair and impartial forum for resolution of all matters, disputes and controversies relating to professional health services and all questions involving professional ethics.

8.1.2 The Medical Review Committee also shall provide a fair and impartial forum to consider and determine any other matters, disputes or controversies which may be submitted to it as set forth in these Bylaws or as may be provided in any written agreement between the Corporation or any one or more entities controlled by the Corporation and any Health Service Doctor or other provider of health care services (all such persons collectively, "Providers").

8.1.3 The Medical Review Committee shall operate independently of the Corporation, and the Board of Directors shall have no authority over the decisions of the Medical Review Committee. Except as otherwise provided in Section 8.7 or in any agreement with a Provider, all decisions of the Medical Review Committee shall be final and binding upon all parties to any matter, dispute or controversy submitted to it.

8.1.4 The Corporation shall, at its expense, provide reasonable resources to the Medical Review Committee to discharge its duties under these Bylaws.

8.2 Medical Review Committee Selection Committee.

8.2.1 The members of the Medical Review Committee, who must satisfy the requirements set forth in Section 8.3, shall be appointed and may be removed as provided in this Article VIII by the Medical Review Committee Selection Committee (the "Selection Committee").

- 8.2.2** The Selection Committee shall consist of at least five (5) persons, a majority of whom shall be Health Service Doctors, and the balance of whom shall be subscribers who are not Health Service Doctors and who have coverage under contracts issued by the Corporation or an entity controlled by the Corporation. All Health Service Doctors who are members of the Selection Committee shall be parties to one or more professional provider contracts with the Corporation.
- 8.2.3** No member of the Selection Committee may be a director, officer or employee of the Corporation or a member of a Regional Advisory Board, nor may any such person have served on the Medical Review Committee during any part of the two (2) year period immediately prior to his or her appointment to the Selection Committee.
- 8.2.4** The members of the Selection Committee shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Board, and each shall hold office for a term of two (2) years.
- 8.3** **Appointment of Medical Review Committee Members; Term; Removal.** The Medical Review Committee shall consist of at least eight (8) persons who meet the criteria set forth in this Section. Any person may submit to the Selection Committee names of prospective Medical Review Committee members; provided, however, that the Selection Committee shall not be bound to appoint any person whose name is so submitted. The Selection Committee shall make appointments to the Medical Review Committee using the following criteria:
- 8.3.1** A majority of the members of the Medical Review Committee shall be Health Service Doctors, and the balance shall be subscribers who are not Health Service Doctors and who have coverage under contracts issued by the Corporation or an entity controlled by the Corporation. At least seventy-five percent (75%) of the Health Service Doctors who are members of the Medical Review Committee shall be medical doctors or doctors of osteopathy.
- 8.3.2** All Health Service Doctors who are members of the Medical Review Committee shall be parties to one or more professional provider contracts with the Corporation.
- 8.3.3** No member of the Medical Review Committee shall be a director, officer or employee of the Corporation or a member of a Regional Advisory Board.
- 8.3.4** At least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Medical Review Committee shall have no relationship with the Corporation or any entity controlled by the Corporation, other than as Health Service Doctors who submit claims in the ordinary course of business or as subscribers.
- 8.3.5** No member of the Medical Review Committee shall have any conflict of interest that would prevent him or her from rendering a fair and impartial decision in matters, disputes or controversies between the Corporation, or, if applicable, any entity controlled by the Corporation, and a Provider; provided, however, that a

member may be recused from individual matters, disputes or controversies in the event of any specific conflict of interest with respect thereto.

- 8.3.6** No Health Service Doctor who is a member of the Medical Review Committee shall have any history of (a) material adverse utilization or claims coding determinations by the Medical Review Committee, or (b) material repayments to the Corporation or any entity controlled by the Corporation resulting from utilization or claims coding reviews.
- 8.3.7** The Health Service Doctors who are members of the Medical Review Committee shall be broadly representative of the various specialties whose professional health services generally are covered under contracts issued by the Corporation.
- 8.3.8** Members of the Medical Review Committee must be willing to commit to regular attendance at committee meetings and to devoting adequate time to committee business to permit them to fully understand the committee's work and to give full and fair consideration to all matters coming before the committee.
- 8.3.9** Each member of the Medical Review Committee shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and may be removed during his or her term only for cause as determined by the Selection Committee, including, but not limited to, failure to regularly attend committee meetings or to devote adequate attention to committee work.
- 8.3.10** The Selection Committee shall consider the need for continuity and orderly rotation of members when making appointments or reappointments to the Medical Review Committee.
- 8.4** **Officers of the Medical Review Committee.** The Medical Review Committee shall have three officers: a chairperson, a vice chairperson and a secretary, selected as follows:
- 8.4.1** The Selection Committee shall appoint a chairperson of the Medical Review Committee. The chairperson shall be a member of the Medical Review Committee and shall preside at all meetings of the Medical Review Committee, but shall not vote in any matter being considered by the Medical Review Committee except when necessary to break a tie.
- 8.4.2** The Selection Committee shall appoint a vice chairperson of the Medical Review Committee. The vice chairperson shall be a member of the Medical Review Committee and preside at meetings of the Medical Review Committee in the chairperson's absence and, when serving in such capacity, shall vote only when necessary to break a tie. The vice chairperson shall also perform such other duties as the chairperson may assign.
- 8.4.3** The Corporation shall provide one of its employees to serve as secretary for the Medical Review Committee. The secretary's role shall be solely that of

administrator, and not that of a member of the Medical Review Committee. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the Medical Review Committee meetings and perform the duties enumerated in Section 8.6 and such other duties as the committee may assign.

8.5 Submission of Matters to the Medical Review Committee. All matters, disputes or controversies relating to professional health services and questions involving professional ethics referred to in Section 8.1 or otherwise required to be considered and determined by the Medical Review Committee shall be submitted in writing to the secretary of the Medical Review Committee. Either the Corporation or a Provider may submit a matter, dispute or controversy relating to professional health services or a question involving professional ethics for consideration and determination.

8.6 Medical Review Committee Proceedings.

8.6.1 The Medical Review Committee shall maintain written procedural guidelines to assure that each Provider receives full, fair and impartial consideration of any matter, dispute, controversy or question presented to the Medical Review Committee.

8.6.2 Only the Health Service Doctors who are members of the Medical Review Committee may vote on any matter brought before the committee.

8.6.3 One-third (1/3rd) of the voting members of the Medical Review Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the acts of a majority of voting members of the committee present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the acts of the committee.

8.6.4 In considering any matter, dispute or controversy relating to professional health services or any question involving professional ethics brought before it, the Medical Review Committee shall have authority to take any one or more of the following actions (subject to any binding contractual prohibitions or restrictions agreed to in writing by the Corporation or, if applicable, any entity controlled by the Corporation):

- (a) Make a referral to any appropriate committee, board or division of any applicable state or local professional society;
- (b) Make a referral to an appropriate law enforcement officer or agency of any applicable federal, state or local government if the Medical Review Committee has probable cause to believe that a Provider secured payment for services performed on the basis of material false information submitted with the intention of defrauding the recipient(s);

- (c) Make a referral to the applicable state professional licensure board of a Provider;
- (d) Render a determination that the Corporation or, if applicable, one or more entities controlled by the Corporation is or is not entitled, in whole or in part, to a refund of fees paid to a Provider;
- (e) Render a determination that authorizes the Corporation or one or more entities controlled by the Corporation to collect any refund by withholding future payments due to a Provider; or
- (f) Render any such other determination or take any such other action as may be necessary or appropriate.

8.6.5 If a particular matter, dispute or controversy relating to professional health services or a particular question involving professional ethics includes any actual or alleged action or failure to act which would justify denying a Health Service Doctor registration with the Corporation pursuant to 40 Pa.C.S.A. § 6324(a), or the suspension or termination of such registration, the Corporation may request that a hearing be held by the Medical Review Committee in accordance with Section 8.7 to consider such registration status. Such action or failure to act may include by way of example and not limitation:

- (a) Violation of the Health Service Doctor's professional provider contract with the Corporation or any regulations of the Corporation for participating providers; or
- (b) Violation of any statute with which the Corporation or the Provider is required to comply.

8.7 Proceedings Involving Status of Registered Health Service Doctor.

8.7.1 The procedures set forth in this Section 8.7 apply in all cases where the Corporation has requested pursuant to Section 8.6.5 that a hearing of the Medical Review Committee be held to determine the status of an individual as a registered Health Service Doctor. In any such case, the Corporation shall prepare an appropriate complaint setting forth the allegations against the individual.

8.7.2 The chairperson of the Medical Review Committee promptly shall fix a time, date and place for such hearing of the Medical Review Committee. The applicable Health Service Doctor shall be given at least thirty (30) days written notice by the secretary of the Medical Review Committee of the date, time and place of such hearing and shall be furnished with a copy of the complaint.

8.7.3 The Health Service Doctor shall be allowed to file a written answer to the complaint, provided such answer is filed with the secretary of the Medical Review

Committee at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. At the hearing, such witnesses may be heard and such evidence may be received as is deemed by the Medical Review Committee to be relevant and of reasonable probative value; provided, however, that formal rules of evidence or procedure need not be followed. The Health Service Doctor shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard before the Medical Review Committee, either in person or by counsel, and to produce evidence and witnesses at such hearing. All testimony shall be recorded and a complete record shall be kept of the hearing.

8.7.4 Promptly following the hearing, the Medical Review Committee shall take whatever action it deems appropriate, based on the evidence and testimony produced at the hearing. If such action involves either the denial of registration as a Health Service Doctor with the Corporation or the suspension or termination of such registration, the matter shall be referred promptly to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health for approval or for such other action as said Secretary of Health may deem appropriate.

8.8 Other Appeals.

8.8.1 The Medical Review Committee also shall serve as the final and binding appeal body for any Provider whose registration as a preferred or similar provider pursuant to any other professional provider contract of the Corporation or, if applicable, one or more entities controlled by the Corporation is rejected, suspended or terminated by the Corporation or such other entity.

8.8.2 Any such Provider may appeal such decision by a written submission to the secretary of the Medical Review Committee. The appealing Provider shall be entitled to appear before the Medical Review Committee and to present evidence or argument, but the hearing will not be recorded and the committee's decision will not be referred to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health for approval.

8.8.3 In connection with any such appeal, the Medical Review Committee may consider any:

- (a) Violation of the Provider's agreement(s) with the Corporation or any entity controlled by the Corporation to render health care services or supplies to subscribers;
- (b) Violation of any statute with which the Corporation or the Provider is required to comply;
- (c) Violation of any of the regulations or requirements referenced in the Provider's agreement(s) with the Corporation or any entity controlled by the Corporation with which the Provider is required to comply; or

- (d) Refusal to adhere to the billing, payment or service benefit provisions of any contract issued by the Corporation or any entity controlled by the Corporation which utilizes the applicable professional provider network in which the Provider has agreed to participate.

8.9 Compensation. Members of the Medical Review Committee and the Selection Committee shall be entitled to be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings of the Medical Review Committee or the Selection Committee, as the case may be, and such other compensation for their services as may be determined by the Board of Directors.