

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes from Combined PCOM Advisory Group

- Attendees:** Members: Kathie Buck, Sharyn Butwid, George-Ann Coccia, Jonathan Dougherty, Linda Englebrecht, Elaine Guppy, Darcy Hightower, Nancy Hinchcliffe, Kim Lagonegro, Michael Lewensohn, Barbara Love, Cynthia Lowe, Liz Maas, Laura Pascucci, Amanda Price, Jeanne Rizzo, Beth Sassano, Linda Smith, Christopher Tirabassi, Kym Zdanowicz
- Guests: Dr. Mark Pundt, Marcia Rosenberg
- Staff: Melany Giordani, Sharon Lovejoy, Vikki Menichillo, Theresa Weiland, Taynia Christian (CMS)
- Absent:** Susan Coats, Carol Ann Conti, Susan Cracchiola, Jeffrey Dann, Marlene DiStefano, Kevin Dwyer, Pamela Falletti, Davis Frey, Deborah Gregoire, Teresa Halliday, Fred Holderle, Joseph Ianniello, Beth Karis, Therese Kundel, Sandy McMahon, Jim Merritt, William Murphy, Paul Rice, Andrea Stella, Deb Sturtevant, Sandy Wolf, Gina Zegarelli
- Facilitator:** Sharon Lovejoy
- Scribe:** Melany Giordani
- Date and Time:** Thursday, September 9, 2004
-

Meeting Highlights

1. Medicare Updates – Theresa Weiland

Theresa provided members with relevant Medicare updates as follows:

- CERT Program (Contractor Error Rate Testing) AdvanceMed has been contracted by CMS to perform claim payment reviews and will be sending letters to providers requesting documentation to support a specific claim. If AdvanceMed does not receive a response within 30 days, UMD staff will make a reminder phone call. Subsequently, if no response is received after contact, a referral to the OIG (Office of Inspector General) will be initiated. Therefore, it is very important to respond to AdvanceMed's request.
 - Reminder of the elimination of the grace period for ICD-9 codes is October 1, 2004 and for HCPCS codes, January 1, 2005.
 - CMS has mandated all carriers produce their 2005 Physician Fee Schedules via CD. Theresa has planned a number of additional educational files for this year's CD.
 - The Part B deductible for 2005 will increase to \$110. First increase in 14 years.
 - Reminder: Item 32 on CMS 1500 and the electronic equivalent MUST include a complete address, including Zip code, or the claim will not be processed.
-

- Please remind staff to utilize the correct PO boxes when sending mail to UMD. Only general correspondence should be directed to PO Box 5200. Provider Enrollment material should be sent to PO Box 5209. Paper claims, Par, PO Box 5600 and non-par PO Box 5202.

2. PCOM Updates

- Sharon Lovejoy introduced new member Kym Zdanowicz and guest, potential new member Dr. Mark Pundt.
- Sharon also thanked all the members for participating in the Group for the last year, and specially recognized members Beth Sassano, Cindy Lowe, Linda Smith, and Michael Lewensohn for their help with facilitating breakout sessions at the 2004 Summer Conference in August.
- Sharon announced that all of the planned outreach events for FY 2005 are now posted on the Internet Web site and are ready for registration.
- Sharon announced that UMD is looking into hosting the next Medicare Conference at the Turning Stone Conference Center in Verona, NY. Pending CMS approval and Turning Stone's date availability.
- CMS and WEDI (Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange) will sponsor two educational seminars in upstate NY during October 2004. Visit WEDI.org and click on Industry Events.
- Registration forms were brought today for participating in the PPTN (Professional Provider Telecommunications Network) PPTN allows providers to dial in via computer modem to access Medicare beneficiary information including eligibility, HMO info, Part B SNF, etc. Forms are also available to download from the EDI Web page under EDI Forms. Each user must register their own information with the EDI department. There is no charge for using this service.
- Reminder that all Medicare patients must now call 1-800-MEDICARE for questions. The individual carrier's toll free numbers have been discontinued. Calls will be routed seamlessly back to the carrier from the CMS call center if claim specific information is needed.
- Summer Conference evaluations and questions are close to completion and will be posted to the Web site shortly. Indications so far are very favorable.
- The next CMS Open Door Forum for Physicians will take place on September 20, 2004 at 2 p.m. Visit www.cms.hhs.gov/opendoor for more information and to subscribe to the list serve that will notify you automatically of future forums.

3. Focus Group Discussion

See attached.

4. Meeting Adjourned.

New Action Items

1. Update PCOM Advisory Group Web page.....Sharon
 2. Request a link to CMS's Web page for ICD9 changesSharon
-

Next Meeting

Date: December 7, 2004 Albany (HealthNow Offices) **Facilitator:** Sharon Lovejoy
December 9, 2004 Syracuse (Foster's Restaurant)
Time: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Scribe:** Theresa Weiland
