

Advisory Committee on Healthcare Innovation & Evaluation (ACHIEv)

Meeting Minutes for July 22, 2021

Members Present

Ron Wilcox, DC (Chair)
Mike Dowling, DC
John Meier
David Folweiler, DC
Stephen Thielke, MD (Vice-chair)
Andrew Friedman, MD
Kirk Harmon, MD
Lee Thomas
Louis Lim, MD

Members Not Present

Malcolm Butler, MD
Joe Kendo
Lisa Vivian
Neil Hartman

Members of the Public

Nicole Bennett, CHI
Tricia Daniel, WSIA
Cheri McLaughlin
Sheryl Divina, UW
Janice LeGros, COHE
Chay Piger, COHE
Mackenzie Sanders
Tom Martin, Providence
Heidi Moser, COHE
Rachel Kaufman, COHE
Kaethe Long
Regine Neiders, Pacific Rehab
Bobbi Meins, Pacific Rehab
Cory Turner

L&I Staff Present

Gary Franklin
Karen Jost
Jeana Weekley
Kelly Miller
Suzyn Daniel
Sarah Holm
Vickie Kennedy
Kim Wallace
Nancy Vandermark
Ryan Guppy
Jennifer Rodriguez
Jamie Hodge
Katie Mangino
Jason Fodeman
Marc Hobbs
Morgan Young
Sarah Holm
Cheri Ward
Jennine Griffo
Zach Gray
Diana Drylie
Shannon Pitts
Debra Hatzialexiou
Molly Dutton
Suzy Campbell
Jessica Gomez
Nikki D'urso
Tammy Havner

Welcome

Chair Ron Wilcox called the meeting to order. The minutes from the April 2021 quarterly meeting were approved without changes.

Healthy Worker Strategic Planning Update – Diana Drylie

Diana Drylie shared that the Healthy Worker program is currently identifying new goals for the next 3-4 years and strategic initiatives to undertake to achieve those goals. The L&I team will update and engage the committee in this process periodically over the next several months.

Provider Recognition Program Update – Jeana Weekley

Jeana Weekley shared that the Provider Recognition Program (PRP) continues to make progress towards the launch of the PRP pilot. There will information posted on an L&I web page and communications sent to providers before the department solicits provider applications. Providers selected for the pilot will be enrolled over a 3-4 month period. The target timeframe for pilot launch is winter/spring 2022.

COVID-19 Update – Cheri Ward

Cheri Ward shared that as of the date of the meeting, the department had received 8212 COVID claims, 57% of which were filed by healthcare workers. There have been 27 fatalities.

Catastrophic Nurse Case Management – Kim Wallace

Kim shared that L&I has executed seven new contracts for these services. The contracts are effective for three years (beginning in May 2021) and can be extended to cover nine years total. Three of the firms that have been providing services have new contracts, plus there are four new firms.

Promoting Health Equity– Kim Wallace

OMD now has a dedicated team of three health equity staff, including two provider navigators who focus on outreach to providers to ensure they know how to effectively and efficiently serve injured workers and interact with L&I. The OMD team actively

communicates and coordinates with other L&I staff to promote alignment and consistent messaging with providers.

Lumbar Spine Surgical Guideline Update – Zach Gray

Zach Gray shared that the written public comment period on the Lumbar Spine Surgical Guideline draft ran from May 21-June 24. At the July 22 IIMAC quarterly meeting, IIMAC will review the written public comments and vote on the guideline. If approved, the next step is for the department to officially adopt the guideline and set an implementation/effective date. Zach then reviewed the scope of the guideline.

Insurance Services Dashboard and Vocational Recovery Program update – Vickie Kennedy and Ryan Guppy

Vickie Kennedy presented highlights from the Insurance Services Dashboard. In the first quarter of 2021, the percent of workers on long-term disability was up slightly, most likely due to the COVID 19 pandemic and its effects on overall employment rates.

Ryan Guppy then shared updates on the Vocational Recovery Project. Specifically, he introduced the committee to the vision and components of the Vocational Service Quality Assurance Program.

SIMP Evidence-based Review Project – Jaymie Mai and Jason Fodeman

Jaymie Mai and Jason Fodeman presented information about Structured Intensive Multidisciplinary Programs (SIMPs), including goals, payment policies, and key elements. SIMPs deliver regularly scheduled, daily, interdisciplinary care for the treatment of chronic pain. Jaymie and Jason also introduced the SIMP Evidence-based Review Project and shared project goals, major project components, and recommendations. They let ACHIEv members know they would be presenting more details and analysis of the project later in the day at the IIMAC meeting, and that ACHIEv members and members of the public were welcome to attend should they want to hear more.

Definition of Case Progress for IMEs - Debra Hatzialexiou

Debra Hatzialexiou presented the draft language for two WACs related to the definition of case progress (WAC 296-20-01002) and IME definitions (WAC 296-23-302). Committee members asked clarifying questions and provided comments.

Administrative Support for ACHIEv – Kim Wallace

Kim Wallace shared that Kelly Miller will be leaving L&I at the end of July 2021. OMD's new administrative assistants will assume support duties for ACHIEv beginning in August 2021.

Planning for October 2021 – Ron Wilcox

Ron Wilcox presented potential agenda items for the October 2021 ACHIEv quarterly meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.