



Steve Sisolak
Governor

Dr. Ikram Khan
Chairman

Sara Cholhagian
Executive Director

Patient Protection Commission

Office of the Governor, State of Nevada

555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 5600
Las Vegas, NV 89103

SUMMARY MINUTES **November 30, 2020**

Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006 as amended and extended by Emergency Directive 029, there will be no physical location for this meeting. The meeting can be listened to or viewed live over the internet. The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Commission's meeting page or by request.

Agenda Item I - Call to Order

Chairman Khan called the regular meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

Commission Members Present:

Dr. Ikram Khan, Chairman
Dr. Howard Baron
Theresa Bohannon
Bobbette Bond
Jessica Flood
Flo Kahn
Dr. John Packham
Yarleny Roa Dugan
Shaun Schoener
Dr. Anthony Slonim
W. Mason Van Houweling

Advisory Commission Members Present:

Executive Director Heather Korbolic, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange
Insurance Commissioner Barbara Richardson, Nevada Division of Insurance (Department of Business and Industry)
Director Richard Whitley, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Commission Staff Present:

Sara Cholhagian, Executive Director
Gregory D. Ott, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Lezlie Mayville, Administrative Assistant/Policy Coordinator

Agenda Item II - Public Comment:

Jesse Wadhams, representing the Nevada Hospital Association.
Acknowledged all the important work the PPC was doing, especially during the pandemic. Mentioned PPC bill drafts now codified into SB5 and SB40 and advised that walkthrough and preparation of any conceptual amendments, if they're needed, is always probably a best practice. Looking forward to future discussions.



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Agenda Item III - Presentation from Patient's about their health care experiences in Nevada

Director Chalhagian reminded the Commission and the public of the Patient Stories and Testimonials tab on the PPC website and encouraged Nevada patients to share their stories.

Agenda Item IV - Approval of the November 9, 2020 minutes

Chairman Khan presented the Commission with an email draft of the summary minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting.

MOTION was made to approve minutes of the November 9, 2020, meeting as presented, by Commissioner Bond. Commissioner Slonim Seconded. Carried without dissent.

Agenda Item V - Opening Remarks - Overview of Agenda and Welcome

Chairman Khan welcomed Commissioners and let everyone know there was a hard stop to the meeting today at noon.

Agenda Item VI - Presentation on Nevada's Current Status of Health Insurance Enrollment Numbers and Future Challenges

Heather Korbolic, Executive Director, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

Some of the Commissioners comments/questions included but were not limited to being "shocked" at the high cost of the plans when she went onto the site. Director Korbolic responded that she hoped the Commissioner was in the correct place and would get us some averages. One Commissioner asked what information was being released and was told the first 30 days of enrollment numbers, another mentioned many Culinary members lost coverage and, in the future, would like to see "churn management". She was told it would take lots of heavy lifting for that to occur. Some members would like to see moving to employer sponsored coverage and another questioned if it would be prudent to have discussions on public option. They were told Nevada could not do it under current budget constraints as it was very expensive without Federal support. A Commissioner also mentioned he would be happy to get the enrollment information out to the masses on behalf of NevadaHealthLink.com.

Agenda Item VII - Presentations of Comparative Medical Reimbursement Rates Across States

Suzanne Bierman, J.D., M.P.H., Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, DHHS

Some of the Commissioners comments/questions included but were not limited to asking about rates and comparisons being all Fee For Service or all Managed Care, Medicaid reimbursement rates are lower than Medicare; what would it take to get to automatic enrollment and was told options available just need a state plan amendment for presumptive eligibility (this currently applies to hospitals only and not other providers.) Another Commissioner asked what the difference in reimbursement between Medicaid and Medicare is and was told it was limited to physician fees, but they would need to do a study and can follow up on AB108 schedule (which requires review of rates every four years). A Commissioner asked if there was a way to get higher reimbursement rates in rural counties because there are not a lot of providers and most people just go to the ER. Also was wondering if there were other incentives to get more rural providers other than reimbursement rates. Administrator Bierman said they were always willing to look at ways to streamline and collaborate to stretch healthcare dollars. A Commissioner asked if as we gear up to the next Legislative session she thought there would be more cuts and she replied that the Governor has already asked for an additional 12% of budget cuts to the agency. Is there a way to increase the state's purchasing power, efficiency and/or possibility of working with other western states, especially on drug costs? This was one of the issues being considered by Senator Cancela's Committee to Conduct an Interim Study Concerning the Costs of



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Prescription Drugs (SB276). Peterson-Millbank was mentioned again and that this would be very helpful for our state. Several Commissioners mentioned it would be helpful to have more up-to-date data. They were told AB108 mandated every four-year look but did not mandate an adjustment of rates. One Commissioner wanted to compliment the Medicaid Team on all they do for the patients of Nevada.

Agenda Item VIII - Discussion of Commission's Top Priorities for Future Recommendations

Dr. Ikram Khan, Chairman

- a. Review health care workforce issues in Nevada and consider recommendations to improve access and delivery of health care

A Commissioner mentioned some information regarding this issue was sent out prior to the last meeting, and there is no greater issue than workforce to improve access to quality health care. Dr. Packham is an expert on this subject and should make a presentation at our next meeting. Another Commissioner mentioned this should be on the next agenda and Dr. Packham agreed to present as he already has a presentation prepared for Legislators and will make some additions to include Graduate Medical Education (GME).

- b. Review the effect of any changes to Medicaid including the cost and availability of health care and health insurance in this State

This was extensively covered in Administrator Bierman's presentation, but the Commissioners had some questions/comments that included but are not limited to patient outcomes, social determinants of health of vulnerable populations that suffer a higher burden due to chronic disease, substance abuse, mental health distress, food/energy/housing insecurities, etc., even if reimbursement rates go up, these issues do not go away. How can we holistically better serve this population? Once the Legislature starts what can the PPC do to be supportive to DHHS and help with their list of action items. DHHS can provide information, but not advocate. Also mentioned was what can we do to help capture youth issues since problems that start in youth can often carry through to adulthood. The Commissioners were asked to forward their suggestions/questions to Director Chohagian to pass on to Administrator Bierman. At this time Commissioner Schoener mentioned if anyone on the commission would find it useful, he'd be happy to arrange for somebody from their Medicaid Management team to come and talk to about issues they encounter on a daily basis. Director Chohagian also suggested the Medicaid Advisory Commission may have information they find valuable.

Agenda Item IX - Discussion of Report to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau

Director Chohagian

The report will include an outline of the Commission's activities and meetings. She indicated she was not sure if it's realistic to have an outline prior to the next meeting in two weeks, but she will try.

Agenda Item - X Status Update on Commission's Bill Draft Requests

Director Chohagian

The bill drafts have been prefiled and now available for public review. SB5 is the telehealth measure and SB40 is the transparency measure. She further indicated a new tab has been created on the PPC website to allow for easy access and also gives the public an opportunity to submit comments. One Commissioner was curious as to why it would require a 2/3 vote of the Legislature for passage. Director Chohagian explained that it was because on sections 13 and 17 which include the administration and collection of fees and any revenue to the state would require a 2/3



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vote. A couple of Commissioners mentioned they submitted comments that weren't taken into consideration on the final draft and Director Chalhagian stated she reviewed each request and consulted with attorney Ott. However, no requests for modifications were accepted because there were no clear errors or omissions.

Agenda Item - XI Standing Agenda Items

- a. Recommendations for Commission Activities and/or Report to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. This is an opportunity for the Commissioners to take formal action on any recommendations. A Commissioner asked if we were going to hear more from Peterson-Millbank and the AG's office. Applications for Millbank are underway, and she has not been able to confirm anything with the AG's office at this time. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- b. Presentations for Future Meetings. A Commissioner asked if our four top priorities are the top priorities. The answer was yes. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- c. Discussion of Potential Agenda Items
It was suggested to hear about prescription drug cost report from Senator Cancela's committee and have a presentation from Dr. Packham on workforce development that would include percentage of GME slots and hospital impacts in our state. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- d. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates
Next meeting was agreed to be held on December 14, 2020
NO ACTION TAKEN

Agenda Item - XII Public Comment

There was no public comment

Agenda Item - XIII Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Leslie Mayville in blue ink.

Leslie Mayville

Office of the Patient Protection Commission

APPROVED BY:

Date: December 17, 2020



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Meeting Materials

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
VI.	Heather Korbolic, Executive Director, Silver State Health Exchange	Nevada's Current Status of Health Insurance Enrollment Numbers and Future Challenges
VII.	Suzanne Bierman, Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, DHHS	Comparative Medical Reimbursement Rates Across States