**MHDO**

Maine Health

Data Organization

**Information │ Insight │ Improvement**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Virtual Meeting

THURSDAY, September 23, 2021

9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

The virtual meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at approximately 9:30 a.m. with the following Board members in attendance: Dr. Neil Korsen (Chair), Joel Allumbaugh, Andy Ellis, Anne Head (Vice Chair), Lisa Harvey-McPherson, Michelle Probert, David Regan, and Ronald Watson. Board members absent: Peter Gore and Anne Head. Also participating were Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

**Chair Report**

Dr. Korsen opened the virtual meeting with introductions and a review of the voting protocol for virtual meetings. The board reviewed and voted unanimously to approve as drafted the July 29, 2021 meeting notes. Neil then asked Karynlee for her report.

**Executive Director Report**

**Refer to Meeting Presentation which can be found here:** [**https://mhdo.maine.gov/boardMtngs.htm**](https://mhdo.maine.gov/boardMtngs.htm) **for details on topics summarized below:**

**Review Next Steps for Final Adoption of Rule Chapter 570, *Uniform Reporting System for Prescription Drug Price Data Sets***

Karynlee reviewed with the board the sequence of events regarding Rule Chapter 570 since the board provisionally adopted the proposed changes in October 2020. She went on to report that one of the issues discussed and agreed to in the HCIFS committee work session on the proposed changes to Chapter 570 was to adjust the level of reporting in the proposed changes for the Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) reporting specifications from the US level to the State level. Unfortunately, the revision noted above did not get into the final version of what was passed. Additionally, LD 686, *An Act to Increase Prescription Drug Price Transparency* also passed in the last session, Public Law 2021, Chapter 305, also becomes effective October 18, 2021. There are now several provisions in Rule Chapter 570 that are inconsistent with the new law. Karynlee reported that she has been in discussions with Deanna on these matters and that they are preparing language to be included in the board's final adoption of Rule Chapter 570, that will address the inconsistencies with the new law; as well as a recommendation for their consideration on how to address the reporting issue specific to PBM’s.

**MHDO’s Health Information Advisory Committee**

Karynlee summarized the provision in LD 541, *An Act to Improve Health Care Data Analysis,* now Public Law 2021, Chapter 423, which created the MHDO Health Information Advisory Committee. The advisory committee is established to make recommendations to the MHDO regarding public reporting of health care trends developed from data reported to the MHDO. Specifically, the board is required to appoint six members of the committee as follows: (1) One member representing consumers of health care; (2) One member representing providers; (3) One member representing hospitals; (4) One member representing employers; (5) One member representing carriers; and (6) One member representing the state employee health plan under Title 5, section 285. The board discussed and agreed to create a sub-committee of the board to vet the candidates and make a recommendation to the full board. The board also supported the goal to convene the first meeting of the advisory committee in the spring/summer of 2022.

**Review Summary of Reports Due to Legislature & Timelines**

Karynlee reviewed with the board the five different reports that either the MHDO or the Maine Quality Forum (using MHDO data) is responsible to produce and submit to the Legislature before the end of this year and in January 2022. She also noted which reports require board review/feedback before she submits to the Legislature.

**Update on CompareMaine 10.0 (CM)**

Karynlee reviewed the most current stats on usage and top ten procedures searched on CM since the launch of the site in October 2015. She also reviewed the release schedule for version 10.0; and provided an overview of the updates including, cost data that will represent the period, April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021; quality data that will be updated based on availability; updated to the CM Trends Over Time Dashboard; Top 25 Rx Reports; adding a hover for the cost breakdown to include the number of procedures used to calculate the cost estimate; and language updates and clarifications. Karynlee also reviewed in detail the goals that had been set by the board specific to the site representing 80% of the total eligible payments in the commercial claims data. Karynlee suggested that this goal may need further discussion in the future based on the data that she reviewed with the board in terms of mining the data for procedures that are the costliest, highly utilized, and high variability. The bottom line is, if all goes as planned 27 new procedures will be added to CM 10.0 that are on the CPT pathway and 3 procedures will be added utilizing the ETG Grouper. Karynlee reviewed in detail the list of the new procedures. There was some discussion and agreement that the goal may need to be adjusted. A topic for 2022.

**MHDO Board Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of CY**

Karynlee reviewed the schedule for the remainder of the calendar year. November 4, 2021 will start with two public hearings on proposed changes to Rule Chapter 120, *Release of Data to the Public* and a new rule developed jointly with the Department of Health and Human Services, Rule Chapter 730, ***Interagency Reporting of Cancer-Incidence Registry and Vital Statistics Data***, followed by a MHDO board meeting. Last board meeting in 2021 is scheduled for December 2, 2021.

**Maine Quality Forum (MQF)**

Karynlee reported on the key activities that the MQF is working on. Including developing the annual report on Primary Care Spending in the State of Maine; participating in LD 1196, *Investments in Primary Care & Behavioral Health,* Stakeholder Group, (as requested by HCIFS Committee); preparing annual report on Rates of Healthcare Associated Infections in State of Maine; and updating the quality data on CompareMaine as data becomes available. These include:

Preventing Serious complications

Preventing Healthcare- Associated Infections

Preventing Falls with Injury

Preventing Pressure ulcers

Unplanned Hospital-Wide Readmissions

Karynlee discussed the status of Project Firstline and brought to the boards attention the new content that has been added to the Infection Prevention Forum, the infection prevention online learning modules for healthcare and direct care professionals that has been developed in partnership with Maine CDC, University of Southern Maine and the Federal CDC. Karynlee shared the link to the site and encouraged board members to review the site as applicable. <https://maineinfectionpreventionforum.org/>

**Public Comments**

None

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m.