

**Illinois Department of Health and Family Services (HFS)**  
**Behavioral and Mental Health Subcommittee**  
**Meeting Minutes for December 14, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at by Dr. Rick Leary (McKesson Health Solutions), the medical director for the Your Healthcare Plus DM Program and committee Co-Chair, at noon CDT.

**Agenda Item #1 - Role Call and Welcome:**

Peter Alahi, Suzanne Andriukaitis, Cheryl Aredia, Heather Austin, Terry Carmichael, Mary Lynn Clarke, Leslie Ford, Stephanie Hanko, Rick Leary, Randy Malan, Rod Matticks, Laura Miller, Mary Miller, Bob Moore, David Nace, Irene Pierce, Cheryl Ramirez, Bruce Seitzer, Mary Ann Soderquist, Meryl Sosa, Leigh Steiner, Lora Thomas, Felicia Vertin

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**Agenda Item #2 - Enrollment update and feedback from the field:**

Felicia Vertin reported:

1000 Your Healthcare Plus patients have been enrolled in the Behavioral Health intervention to date

Her team reports that the patients are generally appreciative and have called at times of crisis

Her team has also outreached to 50 community mental health organizations. They are scheduling meeting times to discuss cooperative efforts

One of the challenges seems to be a lack of psychiatrists to see Medicaid clients

Much discussion around this fact -

Reported that 50 out of 102 counties in IL have no psychiatrists

Leigh Steiner had previously done a needs assessment strategy

Low reimbursement was mentioned as a barrier

Strategies to increase PCP management of behavioral health clients

Step Care Algorithms

Availability of telepsychiatry consultations

Increased use of Psychiatry residents for patient care

Look into loan repayment schemes

Suggest retention strategies to keep them after graduation

Potential use of Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners in consumer care

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Irene Pierce volunteered to get further information on reimbursement issues for NPs

Meryl Sosa volunteered to quantify how many psychiatry residents there were in IL

HFS is working with many groups on telepsychiatry and payment issues

**Agenda Item #3 – CNS mailing and update:**

2336 letters were mailed to providers in mid-November

They covered 5909 distinct patients

44% dealt with the use of psychotropic medications

41% dealt with benzodiazepines

41% dealt with multiple prescribers

So far they have received 107 responses (4%)

Usual response rate is 10%

33% of responses were “not my patient”

This usually means an error on the pharmacy side in provider name capture

Second mailing will be going out 12/18/06 with same cover letter

**ACTION ITEMS:**

CNS, McKesson, and HFS to investigate “not my patient” responses at the claims level

Same groups to discuss any problems/complaints about Do Not Mail lists

Cover letter wording to be revised and highlighted for January mailing

CNS to incorporate group suggestions and present revised letter at next meeting

**Agenda Item #4 - Review of Schizophrenia and Depression Clinical Indicators**

Suzanne Andriukaitis explained the components and evidence behind psychoeducation

Rod Matticks noted that smoking cessation is associated with changes in the metabolism of many psychotropic medications, and this needs to be monitored

Peter Alahi had questions about how the PHQ-9 is administered and where results go

General discussion about techniques to improve adherence

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**Agenda Item #5 – Open discussion of FFS change and other issues**

No concerns noted by the group.

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**Agenda Item #6 – Medical Co-morbidities**

Reviewed the NASMHPD data and cited other evidence about increased incidence as well as poorer outcomes in groups with serious mental health disorders

Group felt education of providers and consumers was key gap to fill

Better communication needed between behavioral health and medical providers

Pharmacies are also areas under-equipped to deal with multiple med interactions  
“Confidentiality myth” needs to be addressed

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**Agenda Item #7 – Information Sharing**

Dove-tailed nicely with the previous discussions, but little time left to delve deeper

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Mary Miller asked group to find examples of places where this works well and ask them to present at the next meeting

Thursday, March 8, 2007 12:00pm – 1:30pm CDT

Teleconference number: 1-888-232-0371 Participant Code: 925248

Meeting Minutes submitted by: Rick Leary  
December 14, 2006

Reviewed/Approved by: Mary Miller (HFS)  
Jan. 03, 2007