

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Committee

Date of Meeting: December 3, 2020

Length of Meeting: 1 hour and 16 minutes

Location of Meeting: Electronic Meeting

**Committee Members Present:**

William Droppleman, Virginia Association of Chain Drug Stores (VACDS)

Christina Barrille, Virginia Pharmacists Association (VPhA)

Alexander M. Macaulay, EPIC Pharmacies

Anne Leigh Kerr, PhRMA

Bill Hancock, Long Term Care Pharmacy Coalition

David Christian, Virginia Community Healthcare Association

**DMAS Staff Present:**

Karen Kimsey, Agency Director

Chethan Bachireddy, MD, CMO

Donna Proffitt, RPh, Pharmacy Manager

Rachel Cain, PharmD

MaryAnn McNeil, RPh

Danielle Adeeb, CPhT

Nettie Emmelhainz, PharmD

**Other Attendees:**

Total number of attendees was 40 including representatives from pharmaceutical companies, providers, advocates, associations, etc.

**Introductions**

Donna Proffitt welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the electronic meeting format and procedure. Ms. Proffitt took a roll call of the Committee members.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 2020**

Ms. Proffitt asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the draft meeting minutes from July 2020. With none noted, Mr. Christian motioned to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Droppleman seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

## **COVID-19 Updates**

Dr. Bachireddy gave a brief summary of the COVID-19 public health emergency in Virginia and efforts being made to provide the best of care to the Medicaid population. Director Karen Kimsey shared DMAS staff has also worked with managed care organizations (MCOs), key DMAS contractors, health systems, nursing facilities, and other providers to understand their capacity and plans for continuity of care. The Agency also actively engaged with sister agencies and state leaders to develop a unified, comprehensive statewide plan for communicating with Virginians and assembling needed resources during this public health emergency.

Ms. Proffitt gave an update of DMAS current activities in the development of a process and payment methodology for pharmacists to bill for COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration. As part of this process, DMAS participated in the VDH Pharmacy Services Subcommittee to address statewide issues related to COVID-19. Internally, DMAS has worked with Magellan, DMAS' pharmacy benefit administrator, to address system requirements and NCPDP changes to prepare the systems to facilitate submission of claims for vaccines. The committee requested clarification on the breadth of funding, including coverage for vaccines, as well as the timeline for the structure to be in place for reimbursement for vaccinations. DMAS and Magellan will be prepared to reimburse pharmacists for vaccines as soon as approval is received. Ms. Proffitt noted that the platform for pharmacies to bill could be as soon as December 11, 2020.

## **National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations – Pharmacists Role in Maternal Health**

Becky Snead (Executive Vice President/CEO) and Allie Jo Shipman (Director, State Policy) provided information on this program to the committee on behalf of National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA). This presentation included their Maternal Health Services Set and what other states have implemented to expand pharmacists scope in this area to better serve the Medicaid patient population.

## **Medicaid Drug Rebate Program**

Ms Proffitt gave a brief summary of the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program and discussed the amount of rebates in all populations for rebates and supplemental rebates for the FY 2015FY2020 and the projected amounts for FY 2021.

## **General Assembly Updates / Legislative Proposals**

Ms. Proffitt gave a brief overview of the General Assembly and legislative proposals. Ms. Christina Barrille, Executive Director, VPhA requested an update on the legislatively mandated 2020 PBM Transparency Report. The report was scheduled to be delivered to the appropriate General Assembly representative by October 1, 2020. Once received by the GA, the report would be posted publicly to the DMAS Website. Ms. Proffitt noted the report has been posted to the DMAS website and shared the link with the committee.

## **Next meeting**

The next PLC Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021 10AM-12PM.

## **Adjournment**