

Meeting minutes: Medical Services Review Board

Date: April 21, 2022

Minutes prepared by: Anita Hess, executive secretary

Location: Webex

Attendance

Members present

Elizabeth Alm, vice chair
Jeff Bonsell
Russell Gelfman
Kate Daly
Matthew Monsein
Kim Olson
Natalie Haefner
Erica Kuhlmann
Bradley Kuzel
Mark Schulz

Members absent

Lisa Hanselman
Beth Baker, chair

Alternates present

Ceil Jung
Courtney Mitchell
Dave Nelson
Tammy Bredahl
Deborah Zurcher

Alternates absent

Kevin Scott Wall
Kathleen Gomez
Laura Breeher

Staff members present

Ann Tart
Lisa Wichterman
Anita Hess
Ethan Landy
Chris Leifeld
Emily Bannister

Interested parties present

Tammy Hall-Benson
Carla Ferrucci
Mimi Lynn
Kathleen Picard

Call to order: Vice Chair Elizabeth Alm

A Webex meeting of the Medical Services Review Board (MSRB) was called to order at 4 p.m. by Vice Chair Elizabeth Alm. Alm read the Webex meeting instructions. Roll call was taken by Anita Hess. A quorum was met.

- Approval of agenda with revision that Alm is filling in for Beth Baker.
 - Motion made by Mark Schulz and seconded by Erica Kuhlman. All in favor, agenda approved.
- Approval of Jan. 20, 2022, draft meeting minutes with revisions.
 - There is a mistake in the cannabis portion of the case law overview. The federal law pre-empts an order so it would not require reimbursement.
 - Motion made by Kim Olson and seconded by Natalie Haefner to approve as amended. All in favor, minutes approved.

DLI announcements and updates: Assistant Commissioner Kate Daly

- Safety announcements

- The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) is opening to the public Friday, April 22, 2022.
- Adoption of hybrid-work plan for DLI staff members.
- Department updates
 - Legislative update: COVID-19 presumption for frontline workers has been extended to January 2023.
 - Research and Statistics update:
 - new director is Nichole Sorenson, Ph.D.
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution update:
 - new supervisor is Chris Raymond;
 - new Dispute Certification Workgroup; and
 - new help desk supervisor is Yashica Calderon.
- Introduction of new board member
 - Robin Saunders Ryan, physical therapist.
- Open board positions
 - Please let anyone know about open positions if you think they may be interested.

Business

- Treatment parameters – Emily Bannister, medical consultant; Lisa Wichterman, medical policy specialist; Ethan Landy, Office of General Counsel

Emily Bannister led a discussion about the updates to the imaging treatment parameters. As discussed at past meetings, this has involved a review of the American College of Radiology (ACR) guidelines on lumbar imaging. The goal is to change the section to be based on the clinical scenario. Some of the current imaging modalities are not recommended; Bannister and DLI staff members are working with the ACR appropriateness criteria to revise. Bannister also noted this is only the lumbar treatment parameters and not for cervical or thoracic. Low back pain and low back injuries are the most common in workers' compensation claims.

Some outstanding questions are the use of plain films, how to define acute trauma and timing for MRIs.

Deborah Zurcher said chiropractors use The Clinical Compass and the Council on Chiropractic Guidelines and Practice Parameters (CCGPP) as guidelines for using X-rays. Matthew Monsein asked about the use of sitting MRI versus standing MRI techniques. He also mentioned flexion extension views. What would indications for use be?

Olson noted there can be different charges for every different view of an MRI.

Items for the next meeting – Alm and board

- Courtney Mitchell asked about looking at traumatic brain injuries (TBI). Ethan Landy explained the focus now is to update the current rules. DLI will focus on lumbar treatment parameters now, but will get to TBI.

- Kuhlman asked if workers' compensation will start addressing long-COVID-19. Fairview has been trying to collect data. Lisa Wichterman said the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) has been discussing gathering that data and it is very difficult. She would welcome data from the board to share at an coming meeting.

Adjournment: Alm and board

- Motion to adjourn made by Monsein and seconded by Kuhlmann. All voted in favor.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Next meeting dates

- July 21, 2022
- Oct. 13, 2022
- Jan. 19, 2023
- April 20, 2023