

# IDAHO TELEHEALTH COUNCIL

September 12, 2014

## Meeting Minutes

---

ATTENDEES:

LOCATION: 450 W State Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boise, ID

**Members Present:**

Stacey Carson – Telehealth Council Chairman, Vice President, Operations & Registry Services, Idaho Hospital Association

Lance Coleman, M.D., Medical Director, Blue Cross of Idaho

Tana Cory, Bureau Chief, Occupational Licenses

Carrie Gilstrap, Technical Records Specialist II, Occupational Licenses

Tom Donovan, Deputy Director, Department of Insurance

Rick Goodwin, MS, MBAH, Assistant Administrator, Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center

Nancy Kerr, RN, M.Ed., CMBE, Executive Director, Idaho Board of Medicine

Molly Steckel, Policy Director, Idaho Medical Association

Susan Ault, Director of Care Improvement, Idaho Primary Care Association

Tracey Sessions, Administrator, Idaho State Hospital South

Mary Sheridan, Health Policy Supervisor, Department of Health and Welfare

Matt Wimmer, Bureau Chief, Division of Medicaid, Department of Health and Welfare

Casey Meza, Executive Director, Affiliated Health Services, Kootenai Health

David Morledge, Ph.D., CCC-A, DABNM, FASNMM, Neurostatus, LLC

Becky diVittorio, Executive Director, OptumHealth

Linda Mac Vicar, Healthcare Quality Improvement Facilitator, Pacific Source

Craig Belcher, Director, Network Management, Regence BlueShield

Ken Schaecher, M.D., Medical Director, Select Health

Michael Meza, M.D., Telemedicine, Shoshone Medical Center in Kellogg

Tiffany Whitmore Seibert, Director, Strategy and Planning, St. Alphonsus Health System

Paul McPherson, M.D., FAAP, Medical Director, CARES, St. Luke's Children's Hospital

Marc Chasin, M.D., System Vice President, CIO, St. Luke's Health System

Bill Hazle, M.D., Owner, Stargazers, LLC

**Members Absent:**

Achini Dingman, M.D., Medical Director, Blue Cross of Idaho

William Ganz, M.D., Idaho Board of Medicine

Melissa Christian, Vice President of Network, Regence BlueShield

**DHW Staff Present:**

Carla Cerchione, Project Manager, Staff to the Telehealth Council

Cynthia York, Administrator, Staff to the Telehealth Council

**Teleconference:**

Michael Bess, M.D., National Medical Director of Telehealth, OptumHealth

**Guests:** Tony Smith, Healthcare Associates

Emily Patchin, Risch-Pisca Law and Policy

---

## 1. Overview

- ❖ Stacey Carson welcomed everyone.
- ❖ Members provided brief introductions.
- ❖ Minutes of the 7/25/2014 meeting were accepted as prepared.

## 2. Telehealth Council Website

- ❖ The Idaho Telehealth Council website has been deployed. A brief overview of the website was provided. The website address is: <http://telehealthcouncil.idaho.gov/>
- ❖ Stacey encouraged Council members to review two documents just released from the American Telemedicine Association.
  - The State Telemedicine Gaps Analysis – Coverage & Reimbursement report identifies gaps in coverage and reimbursement (state by state). In the gap analysis for reimbursement – compared to other states – Idaho received an “F” in parity for private insurance and Medicaid reimbursement. Idaho also received an “F” in Medicaid reimbursement for conditions of payment such as eligible technologies and eligible providers. Idaho received a “C” for having distance or geography restrictions. Oregon and Alaska are receiving good grades, so these may be models to review.
    - <http://www.americantelemed.org/docs/default-source/policy/50-state-telemedicine-gaps-analysis---coverage-and-reimbursement.pdf?sfvrsn=6>
  - The State Telemedicine Gaps Analysis – Physician Practice Standards & Licensure report identifies gaps in physician practice standards and licensure (state by state).
    - <http://www.americantelemed.org/docs/default-source/policy/50-state-telemedicine-gaps-analysis--physician-practice-standards-licensure.pdf?sfvrsn=6>

## 3. Priority Areas (Survey Results Review)

- ❖ Two electronic surveys were conducted among Council members to identify and prioritize telehealth issues in Idaho. The survey results, along with other information presented by several subject matter experts will be used to determine top priority areas the Council should focus their attention on in the short term. This will help the Council stay focused and aligned with the Council Charter as delineated in HCR46.
  - Survey #1 had 18 responders and reveals that responders most often chose:
    - telehealth definitions
    - location of services (meaning reimbursable services restricted to rural or underserved areas)
    - cross-state licensing
    - on-line prescribing
    - consent
  - Based on the comments provided during the Survey #1, there were other priority areas identified and subsequently included in Survey #2 including: in person encounters, physician-patient relationships, continuity of care, mid-level provider policies, credential issues, ambiguity in State Board of Medicine Rules (SBOM) rules, and HIPAA compliance and privacy and security issues. Survey #2 had 13 responders and rates the level of importance for each of the policy areas identified in survey #1. The five most “extremely important” policy areas revealed in this survey are as follows:
    - telehealth definitions
    - on-line prescribing
    - in person encounters / physician-patient relationships /continuity of care
    - ambiguity in State Board of Medicine (SBOM) rules
    - location of services (meaning reimbursable services restricted to rural or underserved areas)

## 4. Idaho Telehealth Strategic Planning – Teri Johnson, ICF International

- ❖ Teri Johnson along with the team from ICF International presented the Idaho Telehealth Plan. This plan was prepared under the direction of the Idaho Telehealth Task Force. The report is available on the Telehealth Council website at [http://telehealthcouncil.idaho.gov/Portals/91/Documents/NEW%20Telehealth%20Plan\\_Final%20Draft\\_9-12-14%20v3.pdf](http://telehealthcouncil.idaho.gov/Portals/91/Documents/NEW%20Telehealth%20Plan_Final%20Draft_9-12-14%20v3.pdf)
- ❖ The Council was encouraged to be thinking about which action steps and strategies identified in the Plan

align with the Council's charter.

- ❖ Teri's [slide presentation](#) is included as an attachment to the minutes.

#### **5. Overview of State Medical Board Appropriate Use of Telemedicine (SMART) guidelines and the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Model Policy for Telemedicine – Shiri Hickman, FSMB**

- ❖ Shiri Hickman, State Legislative and Policy Manager from the FSMB provided a presentation on model policies.
- ❖ Shiri emphasized that on-line prescribing regulations can and do vary state by state.
- ❖ [Shiri's slide presentation](#) is included as an attachment to the minutes.
- ❖ During the discussion that followed, Tana Cory stated that the Bureau of Occupational Licenses serves many self-governing boards. Representatives from these various boards may be asked to attend future council meetings on an as needed basis to provide information concerning their code of ethics.

#### **6. Overview of recent Idaho Cases – Nancy Kerr, Idaho Board of Medicine**

- ❖ There was much discussion around Idaho Code 54-1733.
- ❖ The Council would like to have a better understanding of telemedicine practices with regards to the standard of care.
- ❖ There will continue to be follow-up discussions at future meetings.

#### **7. Determine Priority Areas for 2014**

- ❖ Telehealth definitions will be the first priority for 2014. Crafting and adopting specific definitions will be the first step which will then allow the Council to move on to other areas which were identified in the survey results. Definitions to possibly include:
  - Telehealth
  - Telemedicine
  - Physician-Patient Relationship

**MOTION:** Nancy Kerr moved, Matt Wimmer seconded to approve creating definitions as the first priority for 2014.

#### **8. Communication/FAQ Committee Volunteers**

- ❖ Casey Meza, Molly Steckel, Mary Sheridan, Ken Schaecher, Stacey Carson
- ❖ The Communication/FAQ Committee Volunteers will meet after each council meeting.
- ❖ Tana Cory reiterated that she will ensure information from the council will be shared with the boards she serves. She will in turn bring questions, comments and concerns from the boards to the council to promote bi-directional communication.

#### **9. Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for future meetings**

- ❖ Henry DePhillips, Teladoc (October)
- ❖ Representative from the Board of Pharmacy (October)
- ❖ Steve Palmer, Grayling
- ❖ Representatives from other Boards
- ❖ Patient or Advocacy Group
- ❖ Business Aspect (business cases re: telehealth)
- ❖ Representative from Alaska DHW
- ❖ Representative from ECHO program

The group prioritized these suggestions with the top priority being Teladoc and the Board of Pharmacy.

#### **10. SHIP update – Cynthia York**

- ❖ The SHIP Grant proposal was submitted to CMMI July 2014.
- ❖ CMMI requested detailed response to numerous questions at the beginning of September 2014.
- ❖ DHW responded to the request.
- ❖ Awards will be announced October 2014.
- ❖ Model Test is expected to begin January 2015.

**With no further business to come before the board, Chairman Carson adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m. without objection.**