

**Washington Vaccine Association
Operations Committee Meeting
April 28, 2022; 12:30-1:30 p.m. PT**

I. Attendance. Participating in all or part of the meeting by telephone were the following individuals:

7	<u>Members</u>	18	
8	Walter Kuiee, Regence	19	<u>Helms & Company, Inc.</u>
9	Jennifer Simonsen, Kaiser	20	Patrick Miller, MPH, Administrative Director
10	Tracey Cardillo, Cigna	21	Lisa White, JD, Customer and Financial Support
11	Michelle Baker, Zenith American Solutions	22	Specialist
12	Sue Bride, Premera	23	Ashley Ithal, MPH, Project Support Leader
13	Cathy Falanga, Aetna	24	
14	Nicole Carroll, UnitedHealthcare	25	<u>Members of the Public</u>
15		26	Delphia May, Cigna
16	<u>WVA</u>	27	Erika Cliett, UnitedHealthcare
17	Julia G. Zell, Esq., Executive Director, Chair	28	Tiffany Miller, UnitedHealthcare

I. Summary of Actions Taken and/or Recommended

Actions Taken (votes adopted)

- i. To approve October 28, 2021, meeting minutes.
- ii. To approve the 2022-2023 WVA Vaccine Grid.

II. Welcome and Introductions

At 12:32 p.m., Ms. Zell called the meeting to order and provided a notice of recording. Mr. Miller introduced the attending staff members from Helms.

III. Voting Items

Ms. Zell asked for a motion to approve the October 28, 2021, meeting minutes. Ms. Cardillo, Ms. Comer, and Ms. Simonsen commented that the spelling of their names be corrected. There being no other questions or comments, the following item was put to a vote:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve October 28, 2021, meeting minutes with the requested corrections.

IV. 2022-2023 WVA Vaccine Grid

Mr. Miller provided an overview of the 2022-2023 WVA Vaccine Grid and process for development. He noted that no new CPT codes were added this year, nor changes in the assessment amounts, but that there are some changes to National Drug Codes (NDC). Related to Department of Health (DOH) projections, the DOH will recalculate the VFC fund source split this summer; any adjustment could have a significant impact on cash. Another potential factor in cash considerations centers upon the potential inclusion of the COVID vaccine in the Childhood Vaccine Program (CVP). Mr. Miller also noted that it is unclear when the federal government will cease to pay for COVID-19 vaccines, but when that does occur the WVA and DOH will need to review how these vaccines get paid for within the WVA program.

Ms. Zell asked for a motion to approve the 2022-2023 WVA Vaccine Grid. There being no questions or comments, the following item was put to a vote:

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2 Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

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4 **VOTED: To approve the 2022-2023 WVA Vaccine Grid.**

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6 Mr. Miller stated that the updated grid will be posted to the WVA website by tomorrow, and then distributed
7 electronically and physically mailed to providers, payers, and partners over the next four weeks.

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9 **V. Operations Updates**

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11 Payer and Provider Compliance. Ms. Zell described current payer compliance efforts. She noted that feedback from
12 payers has driven the effort to update the WVA compliance materials. Mr. Miller provided an update on the progress
13 being made with the WVA's graphic designer on the revised Payer Billing Compliance Guide, which will be
14 included as a supplemental document in the annual assessment grid mailing.

15
16 Ms. Zell raised to topic of a future an annual payer certification/verification process. Discussion ensued within the
17 Committee about the helpfulness of this type of process. The WVA will continue to evaluate its potential.

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19 Ms. Zell provided a provider compliance effort update. She explained that historically the WVA has not had a direct
20 relationship with providers; however, in the last two years it has become more apparent that there could be
21 efficiencies in time and effort by having the WVA team more directly involved in provider education and
22 compliance. Ms. Zell described the most recent efforts between the WVA team and the DOH to support providers,
23 including an informational webinar as well as updating the WVA Provider Billing Guide with an expanded
24 compliance checklist. Mr. Miller added that as new provider practices are onboarded, new processes are in place for
25 outreach to the WVA team to ensure billing guidelines are understood by the provider practice.

26
27 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Mr. Miller provided an overview of the WVA KPIs which are generated and
28 sent to the Board monthly. He mentioned that the DOH provides remittance projections twice a year, in April and
29 November, and that actuals are reviewed monthly. Mr. Miller reported that vaccines are costing more but that
30 assessment rates have been kept level due to the ability to leverage cash reserves to absorb increases. Ms. Zell asked
31 the committee members if there were other indicators that could be added, and the committee did not make any
32 recommended additions.

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34 **VI. Closing**

35 Ms. Zell thanked everyone for their input and guidance today, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:14 pm PT.