

**Washington Vaccine Association
Operations Committee Meeting
April 25, 2023; 12:30-1:30 p.m. PT**

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

Members

Michelle Baker, Zenith
Tracey Cardillo, Cigna
Delphia Dent, Cigna
Cathy Falanga, Aetna
Janel Jorgenson, Washington Department of Health
Walter Kuiee, Regence
Kara Manley, United Healthcare
Lacey Papendorf, Regence
Jennifer Simonsen, Kaiser

WVA

Julia G. Zell, Esq., Executive Director, Chair
Helms & Company, Inc.
Patrick Miller, MPH, Administrative Director
Ashley Ithal, MPH, Project Support Leader
Lisa White, JD, Customer and Financial Support Specialist
Leslie Walker, CPA, Mason+Rich, PA
Public Members
Breelynn Young, GSK

I. Summary of Actions Taken and/or Recommended

Actions Taken (votes adopted)

- i. To approve October 27, 2022, meeting minutes.
- ii. To approve the July 1, 2023, Vaccine Assessment Grid.

II. Welcome and Introductions

At 12:34 p.m., Ms. Zell called the meeting to order and provided a notice of recording.

III. Calendar Consent Items

Ms. Zell asked for a motion to approve the October 27, 2022, meeting minutes. 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 27, 2022 meeting minutes.

IV. FY2024 Assessment Grid

Mr. Miller provided an overview of the rate setting process and timeline for development of the FY2024 Vaccine Assessment Grid (“Grid”). The Grid assessment rates are derived from a combination of the administrative budget assumptions and two-year projections received from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The goals for the FY2024 assessment model include providing multi-year Grid stability and maintenance of Board-approved reserves. The reserves ensure the ability to add new vaccines off-cycle, including the anticipated COVID vaccines. Mr. Miller reviewed board-set goals regarding FYE2024-2026 cash balances. He then proceeded to highlighted notable FY2024 model projection assumptions including an adjustment to the fund source split in CY2023; the pandemic impact on vaccine utilization; changing vaccine presentations including Menveo (MCV40) and Rotarix (RV1); and new vaccines including Priorix (MMR), Vaxneuvance (PCV15), Prevnar 20 (PCV20), RSV, and COVID. Mr. Miller noted that there is an expectation that COVID vaccine commercialization will occur in Fall 2023, and the DOH provided COVID projections. Mr. Miller discussed the upcoming Grid communications that will occur once the Grid is approved. These communications include electronic and physical mailings to providers, payers, and other

66 stakeholders. Mr. Miller highlighted visual presentation changes to the FY2024 Grid from previous years, including
67 organization by vaccine. Of note, the WVA does not yet have Prevnar 20 CPT and NDC codes and has added a proxy
68 price for the July 1, 2023, version of the Grid; final details are expected in Fall 2023 and will be communicated. Ms.
69 Zell reiterated that stability in the system is the main goal of the current rate setting process. Discussion ensued within
70 the Committee.

71
72 Ms. Zell asked for a motion to approve the July 1, 2023, Vaccine Assessment Grid. There being no other questions or
73 comments, the following item was put to a vote:

74
75 Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously
76

77 **VOTED: To approve the July 1, 2023, Vaccine Assessment Grid**

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79 **V. Operations Updates**

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81 Provider Compliance and Performance Improvement

82 Ms. Zell previewed a proposed provider billing improvement plan, detailing steps to address provider compliance
83 infractions. The goal of this process is to hold providers accountable for meeting WVA billing obligations. Ms.
84 Falanga asked about the minimum number of infractions that would need to be incurred to do provider outreach. Ms.
85 Zell noted that anything over \$10,000 in a quarter based on settlement reports could be used as a threshold, but it
86 really does depend on provider size, etc. Mr. Miller noted that in partnership with the DOH there is an established
87 process that Ms. White manages for onboarding new providers to the DBA billing process. This is an important
88 partnership because the DOH holds the agreement with the providers. Ms. Zell also noted that the capacity for provider
89 outreach will increase when the WVA Stakeholder Liaison position is filled.

90
91 Payer Compliance

92 Ms. Zell stated that ancillary payer compliance issues persist but are being addressed (e.g., patient responsibility,
93 leased networks, and repricing).

94
95 New Vaccine Preview

96 Ms. Jorgenson provided an update on Prevnar 20 (PCV20) for children. The FDA is scheduled to meet this week to
97 review the application for this vaccine, which she expects will be approved for children. She outlined the process that
98 would need to occur before it would be available through the Childhood Vaccination Program in Washington. As
99 updates become available, Ms. Jorgenson will notify the Committee and WVA.

100
101 Ms. Jorgenson provided an update on vaccine choice. The window opens April 26 for two weeks to allow providers
102 the option to change vaccine brands, if desired.

103
104 **VI. Other Matters from Committee Members**

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106 Ms. Falanga described specific provider billing concerns after a recent review of settlement reports. Mr. Miller will
107 coordinate a call with Ms. Falanga and Ms. White to review these claims. Ms. Falanga reported she has found issues
108 of DBA overpayment tied to several providers in CY2023. Ms. Falanga will conduct additional internal research and
109 reach out to Mr. Miller and Ms. White to review these DBAs, if necessary.

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111 **VII. Closing**

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113 Ms. Zell thanked everyone for their input and guidance today, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm PT.