

Region B Council

A coalition of state HME associations in Medicare Region B

Date: April 3, 2008
Re: Region B Council Meeting
Location: Castle Park Conference Center
Address: 6415 Castleway West Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46250
Time: Council only 10:30 am – noon, Lunch noon – 1:00; DME MAC meeting 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** Paul Koenig, Region B Council Vice-Chair
2. **Operations:**
 - a. Financial Report through February 29, 2008: Paula Koenig
 - i. Motion to approve: Tom Heinrich.
 - ii. Seconded by: Herb Langsam.
 - iii. Motion passed.
 - b. Region B Council Website: Rose Schafhauser is pursuing development of website for the Council. Region A Council and the NSCAC are also interested in pursuing – will look at all options with the leadership from all councils in the next quarter. Update at next meeting.
 - i. Rose has talked with Region A and the NSC – both are interested.
3. **Administrative Issues:**
 - a. Approval of the January 24, 2008 meeting minutes: Missy Cross, Secretary
 - i. Motion to approve: Judy B.
 - ii. Seconded by: Mike S.
 - iii. Motion passed.
 - b. PSC Meetings with Dr. Hughes/Medical Director/Review back to DME MAC-first meeting today: Paula Koenig
 - i. Previous meeting minutes for January and February meetings enclosed. Rose Schafhauser had asked Dr. Oleck if he would continue meeting via teleconference. Response was that he would only do the quarterly meetings, but would discuss further today.
 1. Will ask if there are opportunities to communicate between quarterly meetings.
 - ii. HCPCS codes/repair parts/manual wheelchairs update: Dr Hughes reported there is some interest in doing a coding project and re-looking, re-categorizing the codes for manual wheelchairs. Repair parts project was brought to CMS – is a different kind of issue – indicating there needs to be codes due to oxygen conversion to purchase as of 1-1-09. Dr. Edwards has not heard anything back from CMS.
 1. The SADMERC is on a month to month contract and there is not money allocated for any special projects at this time. Until the contract gets bid and settled, there will not be any other major initiatives regarding coding projects.
 2. We need to encourage the manufacturers to get the parts coded.
 3. Encourage DMACS to help gets codes as it would make claims processing more efficient. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
 4. Ask Dr. Oleck if he saw the document from Dr. Hughes. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
 5. Ask Dr. Oleck about paperwork for repairs. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**

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6. Will K0823 audits continue – are there new codes for audit opportunities
Answered in afternoon minutes.
 7. Who does pre-pay audits? DMAC or ZPIC? **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
 8. Who does post pay audits? DMAC or ZPIC? **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
 9. 27 States require original signature – Tom Heinrich will forward the list of states – refers to stamped signature on the CMN or order.
- c. A-Team Updates: All A-Team Leaders
- d. National Supplier Clearinghouse Advisory Committee (NSCAC) Update: Tom Heinrich
- i. Meeting scheduled at Medtrade, May 8, 2008. NSC Update with Brian Banks: 9:45am to 10:45am (NSCAC members suggested to attend). The NSCAC Only Meeting: 11:00am to 12:15pm and NSCAC With NSC Meeting: 12:30pm - 2:00 pm – both NSCAC meetings will be in room 202A. Guests are invited to attend, but would not be allowed to talk during the NSC/NSCAC meeting.
 - ii. Tom asked us to include the link for providers to turn in problems with the site inspector
 1. <http://www.aahomecare.org/displayemailforms.cfm?emailformnbr=64437>
 2. The committee asked the NSC why the new supplier standard changes?
 3. Still need a volunteer to replace Judy B. on the committee – Tom Hood volunteered.
 - iii. Reminders from NSCAC:
 1. Request for questions, reports on site visits, forward to NSCAC Operations/Region B Council office schafhause@aol.com.
 2. Please share ongoing questions/answers and requests for questions when sent out with Association Membership. State Association Executive Directors will be added to NSCAC communications listing to send this information to their membership.

4. Topics for today's meeting

- a. Legislative issues: All
- i. Competitive Bidding, round 1: claims processing issues; carriers ready for July 1. Round 2 details, i.e.; zip codes, etc. not been released.
 1. Accreditation deadlines have been met.
 2. More detail to arrive in the next month or two.
 3. Round 1 appears to have an influx of problems. The DMAC has no control over this therefore we should not focus on the problems from bidding. We need to focus on are they ready for claims processing as of July 1, 2008.
 - a. How are they setting up the allowables per CBA?
 - b. There are new modifiers that appear to be related to Competitive Bidding – when will they educate us on this?
 - c. Need info on how they are going to handle travel beneficiaries.
 - d. How are they going to handle address changes. Will they adjudicate claims by date of address change and not just the “top” address in the file?
 - e. NGS formed a workgroup to handle the competitive bidding processing issues.
 - f. We, providers, need to write down our questions – send to Rose.
 - ii. Capping of oxygen: status of CMS instructions.
 1. 36 months expires in 8 months?
 2. Have you received instructions yet from CMS?
 - iii. Power Wheelchairs
 1. Question on KC modifier – any update yet?
- b. Other:
- i. PSC information transferring to DME MACs: Paula Koenig
 - ii. CPAP Home Testing: Teresa Camfield
 1. National policy vs local policy – Dr. Oleck will discuss this afternoon.
 - iii. Nebulizer ASP/HCP/PCS: Teresa Camfield

1. Pricing methodology and HCPC codes – reimbursement keeps changes every couple months. Single source pricing? **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
2. Denials on Brovana? Everytime HCPC changes occur denials are abundant – why? **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
- iv. Other
 1. Problem with beneficiary names and denials? Some letters received but not many.
 2. FAQs missing from Tri-C website. TrustSolutions would not load the FAQ page. NGS has moved the articles and will post on their website. How do we access the medical policy? Can you include LCD and policy article together.
- v. New ABN posted on website March 6, 2008. Can begin using as of today – mandatory usage by September 1, 2008.
- vi. MLN article – NPI
 1. Assisted living facilities – do we need an NPI for the facility?
 2. Region B processing issues with POS 13.
 3. If don't have physician's NPI on file – need to call before delivering – WOPD needed?
 4. Hospital beds – do you need a written order before delivery? Is this an error – if so can they fix it. Originated in PIM manual.
 5. Ask the DMAC if they will educate in the 201 classes with the new ABN form? **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
 6. Beneficiary upgrade – need to review every month? Can't retain information if there is no CMN required. Need to ask if they have found a process to fix this.
 7. Speak with level one and ask to go to next level the answers are contradictory. Just graduated a new group out of training.
- vii. Common Working File – will winning bidders have access to the common working file?
 1. #10 why excluding DMEPOS suppliers. MLN # SE0747
- viii. CPAP supplies: if bill A7038 and A7039 on same claim they are denying as duplicate or same and similar. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
- ix. Region B is stating they will no longer send our duplicate EOBs. They will provide duplicate ERNs. Is this accurate? Duplicate EOBs are coming in as ERNs – it appears to be DMAC wide with no education. CEDI will retain ERNs forever now. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
- x. Andrea Stark is going to head up a workgroup to interface with CEDI. If anyone on the Council has issues please e-mail Tom at tom.heinrich@mckesson.com.
- xi. Urological medical policy updated
 1. Intermittent caths – no usual and maximum quantities issued for non-sterile use – Used to be 1 per week. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**
- xii. Payment correction unit – second request letter after sending refund. If they do an offset, they are claiming you will get your money back eventually. The group recommends faxing in an offset request rather than sending a check. **Answered in afternoon minutes.**

5. Future meeting dates and location:

- a. July 31, 2008, same location. Questions will be due to the council office by June 6.

6. Adjournment: