

Region B Council

A coalition of state HME associations in Medicare Jurisdiction B

Date: November 11, 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:** Paula Koenig, Region B Council Chair, opened the meeting.
2. **Operations:**
 - a. Financial Report through October 31, 2008 (see excel files): Deb Holman, Treasurer:
 - i. Deb Holman provided a report on the financial statements:
 1. Motion
 - a. Mike S. made motion to accept the financial report as stated
 - b. Peggy R. seconded.
 - c. Motion passed.
 - ii. Proposed budget – reduce dues ½ of the normal dues structure:
 1. Motion
 - a. Teresa C. made motion to accept the reduction in dues.
 - b. Peggy R. seconded.
 - c. Motion passed.
 - b. Region B Council Website: Teleconference scheduled end of November.
 - i. Preliminary research has been done. A review teleconference will occur in the next couple weeks with Judy Bunn, Rose Schafhauser, and Paula Koenig.
 - ii. Should only the council have access to the website or should it be open?
 1. We want to watch the thread, however with a moderator they can monitor this and watch what is posted, eliminated, or passed on.
 2. Could setup username and password by state/association and they can pass out to their members. This would provide a good tracking mechanism as well.
 3. Have a section where questions could be posted for each quarterly question and answer document and those could be posted any time.
3. **Administrative Issues:**
 - a. Approval of the July 31, 2008 Council Only meeting minutes: Missy Cross, Secretary
 - i. Review of the minutes
 1. Motion
 - a. Herb L. made motion to accept the minutes as written.
 - b. Mike S seconded.
 - c. Motion passed.
 - b. Review and possible approval of Region B Council Protocol (enclosed): Paula Koenig
 - i. We will keep the “Region B Council” name.
 - ii. Recommendation to remove “fee amounts” from the protocol.
 - iii. The group removed the question headings so we can be more adaptable to change without updating the protocols
 - iv. The group tried to be generic in language so didn’t need to make updates everytime an acronym was changed/created.

Administrative Headquarters: Association Management, LLC
10480 Perkins Avenue North, Stillwater, MN 55082
Phone: 651-351-5395 Fax: 651-351-0391 Email: Schafhause@aol.com

- v. The group changed the officer commitment to two year term rather than lifetime commitment. No term limits were put in place.
- vi. Motion
 - 1. Teresa C. made motion to accept the protocol as presented with the change to removing the fee amounts.
 - 2. Donna B. seconded.
 - 3. Motion passed.
- c. A-Team Updates: All A-Team Leaders
 - i. Any problems with the Q & A process this time? None other than the receipt time of the Q & A.
- d. National Supplier Clearinghouse Advisory Committee (NSCAC) Update: Paula Koenig
 - i. Recent meetings at Medtrade: Minutes and Q & A in the approval process. Should be available in the next 3-4 weeks.
 - 1. Website is up and running.
 - 2. Time frames for appealing NSC number issues has been shortened – please take note.
 - 3. NSCAC website has spot for concerns on supplier site inspections. NSC also opened up a site on their website for the same type of information.
 - 4. Re-enrollment packets have begun to be sent out again. This is the first time they have been sent out all year.
 - 5. Operation definition – defines operation office hours – targeting 30 hours per week.
 - ii. Discussing doing a face to face fair with Palmetto – NSC and CBIC February 2008. More details forthcoming late November.
 - iii. Reminders from NSCAC:
 - 1. Request for questions, reports on site visits, forward to NSCAC Operations/Region B Council office schafhause@aol.com. The new website has the forms for both site visits and questions, along with meeting minutes and the ongoing questions and answers packet.

4. Topics for today's meeting

- a. Legislative issues: All
 - i. CMS Proposed Instructions on the Oxygen Cap.
- b. Other:
 - i. CEDI Issues claims not passing to MACS early Oct:
 - 1. Problems for about 1 week – not sure if claims paid yet.
 - 2. Why are they delaying edits? Can they provide an update? Or was this an internal issue.
 - ii. PAP issues/questions?
 - 1. Revised 4609 – changed description of RDI. Interpretation was apnea/hypopnea however that is not what CMS interpreted. Need to revise policy for the correct description of RDI. Sleep lab machines do not define RDI as apnea/hypopnea.
 - 2. Dr. certification – Dr. Oleck stated only available every two years. 2009 is the year of the test. Doctors will not be paid for their interpretation if they aren't certified – so it goes full circle.
 - 3. Some can't become sleep certified – if practicing as a GP they cannot become sleep certified? Need this in order to sit for the exam.
 - iii. MUEs - list posted by CMS
 - 1. They finally posted – there were a few surprises as far as limits go for certain HCPCS. Some claims for the codes have begun to deny. The original rules stated these denials are not appealable.
 - iv. IVR/CSI access to CWF for same/similar inquiries - need to assure that these will be available for items that do not require an actual CMN
 - 1. Expanding CSI for same and similar and will access both local and common working file.

2. Can we add a group of codes for IVR or common working file rather than us accessing 60 codes for a power wheelchair?

5. Future meeting dates and location:

a. Jan. 22, 2009

6. Adjournment: Lunch provided.