



Connection Coalition

May 11, 2020 | 12:00 pm - 1:00pm

Conference Call via Zoom

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Introductions
 - a. Randall opened the meeting at 12:05pm
2. Additional Agenda Items?
 - a. RH: Governors budget is out
 - i. \$53.4 billion budget deficit announced. Friday or today LAO did their spring financial forecast and came up with lower figures... \$18-34 billion. Governors May revise should be out on Thursday. Ways to handle might be furloughs as in prior years, lower reserve deposits, lower spending on K-14, find federal funds, Prop 98 education funding reserves (state can only access \$9 out of \$16 billion), state tax filing pushed back. Not sure how this will affect MH/BH/SUD issues.
 - 1.
 - b. PT: SB900 (Hill)
3. Therapeutic Substitution of Psychotropic Medication
 - a. CS: Because of PPE and workforce shortage, patients receiving LAIs patients who were stable might not be able to receive LAI and would be issued oral meds. Pharmacies in some counties could administer LAIs. Not hearing that the situation is getting worse. In LA county patients are being released with the hope that they have a treatment plan.
 - b. CPA trying to work with CA Health Directors Assoc., but they are not very active/engaged.
 - c. PT: Heard pharmacies are not reimbursed for administering LAIs.
 - d. JM: Spoke with Mike Talford, mentioned looking to change pharmacy reimbursement for admin LAIs. Medical benefit buy and bill. (?)
 - e. PT: If a psychiatrist administers an LAI, before C19 if LAIs were given outside of community health facility, provider would need to submit TAR.
 - f. CS: Access Coalition pushed out info. Can ConnCo share that information so all members have it.
4. Other Current Challenges Affecting Access to Treatment/Prescriptions
 - a. Access to LAIs
 - b. Telehealth Update
 - i. RH: Reimbursements are complicated. No resolution in private market with ARISA plans for example. Self-insured access such as CalPERS, Chevron. Dept of Managed Health Care, no distinction between video and or audio only. Medicare released new set of billing codes, use those and get same payment rate as in person visit.
 - ii. CS: Washington State was on track for paying for Telehealth at the same rate as in person. Does CA have the same policy/regulation/law? AL: Suggested looking at AB744 from 2019.
 1. Amanda to send to Caren and Jen.
 - c. CMS Guidance – Codes, Payment
 - i. RH: Guidance appeared last week, CPT codes, ENM code for ongoing codes. Use ENM with modifier for psychotherapy. (ie. Telehealth vs in person)
 - d. Barriers to access with Anthem and Kaiser re: Spravato
 - i. CS Anthem put out a guidance on how to administer. Policy and guidance don't match which is a problem.

- e. HS: LO wanted to share CPCA is cosponsoring AB2164 would allow health centers to participate in telehealth and receive reimbursements continuing after C19. Set for hearing on May 18th in Assembly Health.
5. Legislation, Status on the following:
 - a. [AB 1086](#) (Umberg) Ethical Treatment (per April Grant) – not set yet
 - i. AG thinks this bill will be dropped so nothing to note.
 - b. [AB 1850](#) (Gonzalez) Independent Contractors (per Paige Talley) – not set
 - i. PT: Not moving forward at this time. AL: Thinks it may move. Assembly Labor is meeting on May 20th.
 - c. [AB 2100](#) (Wood) Pharmacy Benefits – set 05/18 in Asm Health
 - i. RH... set coming up on 5/18 action is imminent
 - d. [AB 2144](#) (Arambula) Step Therapy – not set
 - i. Not moving forward
 - e. [AB 3285](#) (Irwin) Antipsychotic Drugs (per Caren and Trish) – not set
 - i. TMD not moving
 - f. [SB 855](#) (Weiner) Health coverage: mental health or substance abuse disorders.
 - i. RH: Thinks this is set for hearing on Wed May 13.
 - g. Other bills?
 - i. PT: SB900 (Hill)
 - h. AG: AB1304 (Waldron) if a parolee stays on medication they get time off their sentence.
 - i. RH: AB 2876 (Waldron) MAT, requires expansion of reporting.
 6. Coalition for Whole Health Update
 - a. Group meeting since before ACA with a focus on BH. Meeting with SAMSHA (Deepen Ga??) and CMS (Melissa Harris) next week. Questions provided in advance insuring access during C19. 11 states do not have MAT and they are required to have that by October, CWH pushing to make sure these states comply by Oct. Also pushing for PPE in Psych facilities.
 - b. RH: Whitehouse meeting? No knowledge of that.
 7. May Surprise!?!
 - a. Happy hour!
 8. June 8th Meeting – Conference Call via Zoom or In-person depending on SIP restrictions

CP
 HS
 RH
 CS
 PT
 CH
 AG
 JMedieros
 JMay
 KW
 AL
 CG
 LO
 JC
 NR
 TMDON