Committee meeting notes

Committee Name: Health Economics Committee

Recent Meeting Date(s):   May 12, 2022

Achievements/Decisions:

- Members were introduced to a new interactive transparency tool sponsored by The National Academy for State Health Policy. It is designed to enable purchasers to compare hospital financial performance along with estimates of "commercial break even" payment rates, and displays commercial payment benchmarking from RAND.
- A brief update of the final preparations for releasing Total Cost of Care by Medical Group and Clinic Location was delivered. The launch date is not set but is approaching.

The meeting convened an Executive Session and all guests and health plan data suppliers that do not currently provide pricing data were excused.

- Members reacted to a proposal formulated after the Board, at its March 22nd meeting, gave only partial approval to an Expert Panel's recommendation on the question of expanding the composite quality score. (The HEC had previously advised at its March 10th meeting that the Panel's full recommendation should be transmitted to the Board for review.)
- The revised proposal, approved by the Quality Improvement Committee on April 14th, calls for pursuing parts 1, 2, and 4 of the Panel's recommendations, and broadening the input from employer stakeholders for this effort.

Issues/Risks/Concerns:

- The HEC generally supported the demonstrated method for integrating risk-adjusted Total Cost of Care performance with the existing Quality Composite Score; however, they called for a better understanding of how total cost percentiles are derived, and also to preview explanatory and communications materials that will accompany this work.

Upcoming Activities:

- To increase employer involvement, the Alliance will collect input on current efforts to combine quality and cost performance from the Purchaser Affinity Group on May 19th.
- A refreshed proposal will be presented to the Board retreat on May 24th. Should it be approved, development work will proceed out of the current prototyping stage, and the HEC's requested analytic/communication review will be organized.