

Committee meeting notes

Committee Name: Health Economics Committee

Recent Meeting Date(s): January 12, 2023

Achievements/Decisions:

- There was a recap of salient themes from the recent State of Reform conference. Important themes were value, equity, and the role of purchaser voices in moving the market.
- Members learned of Genentech sponsorship for 2023 WHA equity and inclusion work using quality and Total Cost of Care (TCoC) results stratified by Area Deprivation Index (ADI) deciles.

At this point the committee convened an Executive Session and all guests and data suppliers who do not currently provide pricing data were asked to leave.

- A survey of preliminary and embargoed TCoC results stratified by ADI occurred. Members asked clarifying questions, gave reactions, and suggested improvements to the reviewed displays.
- Last year the Board approved a tool for blending quality and cost results into a single score, based on user-supplied weights. A workgroup met on January 9th to surface key communication issues for the Alliance to address in its narrative and messaging content for this tool. An overview of that guidance was transmitted to the committee.

Issues/Risks/Concerns:

Reactions to the preliminary TCoC x ADI results displays:

Uses:

- Use TCoC x ADI to help employers become aware of previously invisible cost “pain points”

Suggestions:

- Show estimates of the patient or member cost-sharing in these displays
- Indicate how many members or patients are included in the displayed results, especially when presenting averages or other summary measures

Would like to see:

- Disparities across ADI deciles in age, employment status, and plan types
- End of life spending differentials
- Distribution and magnitude of very high-cost patients across and within deciles
- Distribution and prevalence of persons who do not use their health care coverage at all
- A similar analysis that looks at utilization rather than spending
- Descriptive statistics of the sub-populations for whom no ADI decile was supplied

Upcoming Activities:

- Alliance staff will continue developing TCoC x ADI analysis and reporting, including work to organize these results by medical group.