

**SPWG Notes, Meeting 6, October 17, 2023**

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**Attendance:**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	Organization
Jensen	Carla	Aetna
Pankow	Jenifer	Aetna
Parcham	Cheryl	Families USA
Davis	Janice	Living Capital
Lake	Keith	AHIP
Blake	Nikki	CareFirst
Vayda	Kerry	CareFirst
Chuang	Stephen	CareFirst
Lucado	Dwayne	CareFirst
Barlow	Yulondra	CareFirst
Bream	Cory	CareFirst
Sucher	Greg	CareFirst
Ongwen	Sam	KP
Mangiaracino	Allison	KP
Blecher	Keith	UHC
Chandrasekaran	Dave	Voter Empowerment
Beard	Andre	HBX
Senkewicz	MaryBeth	HBX
Adomshick	Mary	Oliver Wyman
Scharl	Peter	Oliver Wyman
Feleke-Eshete	Lienna	Whitman-Walker

**Discussion:**

HBX Staff informed the group that SPWG Chairperson, will not be on the call.

HBX Staff gave a recap of the last meeting, describing the previously discussed options to address the bronze copay plan's AV concerns.

HBX Staff stated that, in her opinion, Option 2 would be the least disruptive and have the least impact with a copay increase of \$5.

An advocate asked if OW ran the CVD generics at both \$5 and \$10 each.

HBX Staff replied that OW did run them, and that neither copay adjustment worked.

An advocate asked OW if we can get a cost list of the generic drugs, since \$5 and \$10 copays didn't make a difference.

HBX Staff stated that it is HBX Staff's guess that this will not work since the cost differs by carrier.

OW stated that OW agrees with HBX Staff, carriers would be in a better position to discuss the costs based on their respective formularies.

OW stated that the pricing agreements vary from carrier to carrier. We could pull the data and the CVD drugs could be an average of \$15 per script. But the AV calculator isn't capturing the costs. It's using the costs in the aggregate based on AV limitations.

HBX Staff shared last year's language for diabetes coverage and discussed that this year's language would be fashioned the same as last year with the addition of 2 sentences. That language follows and is located on the 2025 Standard Plan Grid:

\*\*\* A select list of diabetes supplies and medications within the diabetic agents drug class, as defined by the carrier, **and a select list of hypertensive medications within the drug class, as defined by the carrier**, are provided with no cost-sharing. A carrier is not required to change the drugs that are on the carrier's formulary.

**\*\*\*\*\*Treatment of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease will be provided with \$0 cost-sharing as reflected in the Appendix of the Whitman Walker report on "Evaluating Coverage Needs for Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Disease Among Communities of Color in the District of Columbia."**

HBX Staff asked the group if there were any comments.

An advocate stated that a list of hypertensives isn't all inclusive.

HBX Staff thanked the advocate for that point and asked carriers to give her suggestions on the language, if any.

HBX Staff stated that it sounds like most people agree that Option 2 is the most impactful and that the language is sufficient, so perhaps the SPWG can officially vote as early as the next meeting.

A carrier stated that the group needs to see the draft plan designs before they can vote, they need to share the draft designs and share the changes with their respective teams.

HBX Staff stated that we have the \$5 copay increase in Option 2 and the language, so those are the changes.

A carrier stated that the codes and the draft language need to be available to the group, like last year. She stated that HBX staff prepared a document that laid out the voting options and other related plan design proposals and sent it to the SPWG members prior to the vote.

HBX Staff asked carrier if carrier could provide last year's HBX SPWG communication to the group that was compiled for the group to aid in their decision making since neither HBX Staff were on staff at that time.

A carrier stated that the carrier would search for last years HBX SPWG pre-vote communication and would provide it to HBX Staff.

HBX staff advised that they would put a pre-vote package together, but the details on the options and the language are already available.

HBX Staff stated that if there is no further business she and Andre will work on the package for discussion at next week's meeting.