

Vermont Blueprint for Health Payment Implementation Workgroup

Workgroup Leader: Jennifer Herwood

Meeting Facilitator: Jennifer Herwood

Meeting Recorders: Caleb Denton/Kara Hooper

Date: Wednesday December 4, 2024

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Where: Virtual / Teams

Conference Room: n/a

Teams Information:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 273 891 412 848

Passcode: sLSBgN

[+1 802-828-7667](#)

Phone Conference ID: 598 279 981#

Agenda:

1. CHT Patients and Payments Worksheet
 - The 2024-Q4 patients and payments spreadsheet were distributed to payers. The next one is expected in early January.
 - Payers may require an invoice to remit CHT payments. CIGNA requires this for CHT payments.
2. Monthly PCMH Report (Rosters) and NCQA Score Reports
3. Pregnancy Intention Program (PII) Rosters
4. Blueprint Manual Updates
5. PIW Meeting Schedule CY2025
6. Payers Overview of Process for Blueprint PCMH Practice Payments
7. Blueprint Portal reminder to update information in the BP Portal
 - Closing all Practices and Providers that are no longer active.
 - Keeping all information up to date (NPIS, etc.).
 - Make sure the billing NPI in the portal is the NPI used when the practice bills.
 - Provider's FTE Percentage is included in the Portal.
 - Information in the Portal matches Payer's Information.
8. Other Agenda items?
9. Next meeting is scheduled for February 5th, 2025

Attendees:

Blueprint Central Office Attendees:

John Saroyan, Caleb Denton, Kara Hooper, Jenn Herwood, Julie Parker, Mara Donohue.

Field Staff Attendees:

Anthony Knox - PM Randolph, **Meghan Fuller** – PM Newport, **Diana Gibbs** – PM St. Johnsbury, **Emelia Wollenburg**, PM Middlebury, **Constance Gavin** – PM Barre,

Michelle Farnsworth – PM Burlington, **Ryan Torres**, Middlebury QI Facilitator,
Jessica Frost, PM St. Albans, **Ellen Talbert** – Burlington QI Facilitator

Payer Attendees:

Pam Biron, Mary Bell, Lynn Trepanier and Carol Cowan – BCBS, **Kevin Ciechon** –
CIGNA, **John Urban, Sharon Jarvis and Mary Kate Sellwood** – MVP, **Derek Raynes** -
OneCare Vermont, **Margaret Haskins** – Gainwell/VTMedicaid,

Agenda Topic 1. CHT Patients and Payments Worksheet

Presenter: Jenn Herwood

Notes:

Quarterly spreadsheets distributed to payers last week. The next one will be sent in early January to payers and program managers. Reminders to send invoices, some payers (i.e. CIGNA) require them to remit CHT payments.

Agenda Topic 2. Monthly PCMH Change Report (Rosters) and NCQA

Presenter: Jenn Herwood

Notes:

Worksheets were distributed this week. The next one is in January. There were no new practices or practice closures this month.

Agenda Topic 3. Pregnancy Intention Program (PII)

Presenter: Caleb Denton

Notes: Rosters were sent out earlier this week. There are no practice closures or openings.

Agenda Topic 4. Blueprint Manual Update

Presenter: Mara Donohue

Notes: Reminder that the new Blueprint manual has gone through two rounds of revision and will be posted later this week.

Agenda Topic 5. PIW Meeting Schedule CY2025

Presenter: Jenn Herwood

Notes:

The meeting schedule for CY2025 has been sent via email and is posted on the website. Jenn Herwood will send invites for the meetings later this week.

Agenda Topic 6. Payers Overview of Process for Blueprint PCMH Practice Payments

Presenter: Payers including BCBSVT, MVP, CIGNA, Medicaid

Notes: PCMH Practice Payment Process

First steps – (Jenn Herwood) the portal is maintained by field staff. Blueprint uploads the active practices and their information and sends to each of the payers monthly. This is why it is important for field staff to keep the portal up to date.

Payers complete their version of the attribution process (see the Blueprint Manual for Attribution Process). See below (Appendix 3 for the “VERMONT BLUEPRINT PPM COMMON ATTRIBUTION ALGORITHM FOR COMMERCIAL INSURERS, MEDICAID, AND MEDICARE”)

https://blueprintforhealth.vermont.gov/sites/bfh/files/doc_library/Blueprint%20Manual%20July%202022_Updated.pdf

Blue Cross: (Carol Cowan)

BCBS adds the providers to the internal payment based on the enrollments they receive. Important that the information in the portal matches. There is a one-month lag between receiving information and implementing the payments. Separate payments for the FPE members and out of state members. That payment is on a 3-month lag. BCBS will supply reports if they are of value to the practices.

PCMH PPM deposits come in three payments – quarterly, Blueprint, Value-based Care, and Blue Card. Sometimes the last two will be combined.

CHT is a different process. Jenn sends the invoices for those quarterly. They are separate payments.

For payment changes, BCBS asks all program managers to make sure all the portal information is up to date.

Sometimes providers work at multiple practices on a per diem. BCBS requires a primary location, so in the portal they're coded as FTE at one location to meet that requirement. This is required only when there is only one NPI number with multiple locations. If there is a separate NPI number for each of their per diem locations, then they don't need to be FTE.

BCBS excludes locums.

MVP: (Sharon Jarvis)

Payments are sent quarterly for both monthly payments and CHT payments. Payments come at the end of the quarter.

On a quarterly basis MVP will take the provider spreadsheet, and do some cleanup and then match it up with their internal information, and then they will look at active patients and codes and produce payments accordingly each month

Regarding providers at multiple locations, MVP looks at NPI and tax ID and they have an algorithm that prioritizes where providers are being assigned based on things like FTE, etc.

If we're unsure where a provider should be assigned, we usually send them to the site where they would get the highest PMPM.

CIGNA: (Kevin Ciechon)

There are a couple of different ways CIGNA adds providers:

-Separate from the roster from Blueprint. They have a provider IDs associated with Blueprint. If an add request comes in with a provider with one of those IDs, they will be added to the claims system as well as the PMPM attribution.

-When Blueprint's roster comes in with the linkage changes, they verify that those providers are participating with CIGNA and they'll be added.

-Every 6 months or so CIGNA matches the list to make sure everyone is included.

Once the provider is in, every month they run the EFT for deposits into their bank accounts. Takes 2-3 weeks each month. "VFR claim" from Cigna is the notation for the deposit. They can work with practices to set up an e-commerce box to receive a patient attribution list. That includes who has been attributed to what practice and the provider attributed to them.

Gainwell/Medicaid (Margaret Haskins)

Medicaid sends payments monthly using the attribution process. They send a remittance advice (RA) that can be checked to make sure all providers at practices are on the list. Additionally, they pay the CHT payment monthly.

Medicaid PMPM and PII (WHI) payments come in at the same time, which complicates the remittance.

Medicare: (Jenn Herwood- Blueprint)

Blueprint calculates Medicare invoices quarterly. Attributions are conducted annually by Blueprint's analytic vendor. Medicare payments for the first quarter of year are not typically completed until Jan-Feb or the new year. They are delayed due to GMCB deciding on the budget. Once the budget has been set then an MOU with OneCare needs to be finalized. Blueprint contract with OneCare to make the Medicare payments for Blueprint. Once the budget and the payments have been finalized, Blueprint will send an email to each practice with the PCMH and CHT amounts.

Medicare CHT payments – In the January CHT spreadsheet, the numbers for Medicare won't be correct due to that budgeting process. It is an estimate based on the previous quarter.

Medicare PMPM deposits happen at the beginning of the quarter and is usually the same, so it is very reliable. They will only change slightly if there is a practice that closed during the year.

Other Questions

Expansion payment –Expansion funding can be carried over to 2026. There will be more information about this in the Field Staff meeting next week.

Other Notes:

Introduced 2 new program managers (Jessica Frost in St. Albans and Megan Fuller in Newport)

The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2025