

Application for OHS Physician Practice Workgroup

The Office of Health Strategy (OHS) is seeking volunteers to be a part of a work group to study Physician Practices in Connecticut (CT). OHS's mission is to implement comprehensive, data-driven strategies that promote equal access to high-quality health care, control costs, and ensure better health outcomes for all Connecticut residents.

Background

Physician Practice Workgroup

Public Act No. 21-129 is an act concerning hospital billing and collection efforts by hospitals and collection agencies that was approved and signed into law in July 2021. The Public Act requires the Office of Health Strategy ("OHS") to study physician practices within Connecticut (CT). The executive director of OHS is to report on the outcome of the study and provide recommendations for legislative action, as a result of the study, to the General Assembly not later than February 1, 2023; but will work to make preliminary recommendations for the next legislative session.

This work group will study methods to improve oversight and regulation of mergers and acquisitions of physician practices to improve health care quality and choice in Connecticut. In addition, this workgroup will study methods to ensure the viability of physician practices. Lastly, the workgroup will develop legislative recommendations to improve reporting and oversight of physician practice mergers and acquisitions, including possible amendments to CT general statutes. It's expected that the workgroup will begin in late 2021 and meet on a monthly basis throughout most of 2022 to draft recommendations for the OHS executive director to submit to the General Assembly.

Vision

The overarching vision of the Physician Practice workgroup is to determine the best approach to oversee the acquisition and ownership of physician group practices, so CT residents have access to physicians in a manner that assures access, avoids increased costs to them, fosters choice and assures quality of care.

Applicants

We are seeking consumer advocates, independent providers, hospital providers, insurance representatives and other interested parties. We will choose a diverse and balanced mix of participants that have a familiarity with the operations of physician group practices. Candidates should be comfortable sharing views, have good problem-solving skills, and be willing to work with others. We invite individuals with diverse experiences to apply.

Serving on the Physician Practice workgroup provides an opportunity to learn about the healthcare delivery system which affects all consumers in Connecticut.

Member Responsibilities

- Provide relevant experiences related to physician practices and the care they deliver to patients.
- Ensure meaningful participation during discussions for healthcare policy decisions.
- Attend monthly meetings based on a schedule to be determined by the workgroup members (schedules will be posted on the OHS [website](#)). (Meetings will be held virtually until further notice.)

*To learn more about the PPW, contact: Steven Lazarus at Steven.Lazarus@ct.gov or Ronald Ciesones at Ronald.Ciesones@ct.gov **Extended Deadline: Applications are due to OHS by Monday, October 4, 2021***

Name	Organization (if applicable)
Address/City/State/Zip Code	
Email Address	Phone Number
<p>1. Are you familiar with the definition of a physician practice? 100 words or less)</p>	
<p>2. Why would you like to serve on the Physician Practice Workgroup (PPW)? If applicable, describe any experience you have with a physician practice merging or being acquired by another practice. (100 words or less)</p>	
<p>3. Describe your volunteer work experience in your community. List any and all organizations you have or are currently volunteering with.</p>	
<p>4. What would you bring to a physician practice workgroup discussion and how would your participation contribute to a better oversight of physician practices in Connecticut?</p>	
<p>5. Who do you work for and in what capacity? (if applicable)</p>	
<p>6. By serving as a member of the PPW, you will be expected to attend one two-hour meeting every month. Work assignments, emails, or phone calls may be required between meetings. Are you able to devote the time necessary to be an active participant?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>7. All PPW work shall be available to the public including discussions, emails and any materials in any member's possession concerning the work. Such information is also subject to state freedom of information laws. Will you be comfortable with the requirement to provide any such information and for it to be made public?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>8. Describe your racial/ethnic background. (Optional)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American (not of Hispanic or Latino origin) <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> White (not of Hispanic or Latino origin) <input type="checkbox"/> Self Description: _____</p>	
<p>9. What is your sex and gender identity? Check all that apply. (Optional)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Woman <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Man <input type="checkbox"/> Agender <input type="checkbox"/> Genderqueer or non-binary <input type="checkbox"/> Not specified, please specify _____</p>	
<p>Submit the application by Monday, October 4, 2021 via email: Steven Lazarus at Steven.Lazarus@ct.gov or Ronald Ciesones at Ronald.Ciesones@ct.gov online, or mail application to: OHS, PO Box 340308, 450 Capitol Avenue MS# 51OHS, Hartford, CT 06134-0308</p> <p><i>Please note that any information you share may become public, particularly regarding health conditions. You should share only that information that you are comfortable making public. If you wish, you may submit a one-page resume or a short bio with this application.</i></p>	