

**Health Care Cabinet  
Transparency In Pricing Work Group  
Meeting Summary**

**Friday, August 4, 2017**

**11:00am – 12:00pm**

*OHA, 450 Capitol Ave., Hartford  
Conference Room 2A*

**Members present (in person):** *Chair* – Frances Padilla (UHCF), Josh Wojcik (Office of Comptroller), Ted Doolittle (OHA), Marghie Giuliano (CT Pharmacists Assoc.), Bob Tessier (Taft-Hartley), Bob Clark (Office of Attorney General)

**Members present (via phone):** Katherine Wade (Insurance Dept.), Raul Pino (DPH)

**Members excused:** Bill Handelman (Nephrology Assoc.), Rob Blundo (AHCT)

**Others Present:** Jill Zorn (UHCF), Carole Dicks (UHCF)

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Frances Padilla called the meeting to order at 11:01am. She listed the members of the work group and acknowledged those present both in person and on the phone. She reviewed the meeting purpose:

- To discuss and refine the work group's charge and brainstorm questions it will address to meet the charge.
- To identify any questions or issues relative to the charge that should be taken up by the Health Care Cabinet or another work group.

**2. Work Group Charge**

Participants discussed the draft charge and recommended changes as follows:

*Work Group Charge:*

- Change bullet: *Transparency for policy making* – change to *"Price Transparency"*
- Change bullet: Add *"other than value based contracting"* to *State agency purchasing policies*

*Key Questions:*

- Josh Woljik suggested that the question related to data should be re-framed or prefaced by *"what are the policies we're trying to pursue and what's the data we need to further them? What are the data barriers and how do we deal with them?"* This approach will help identify data needs more specifically rather than generally, and will facilitate understanding what is available and obtainable from public and commercial sources. This seemed like a reasonable approach since most if not all work groups will need data.
- Other suggested questions include:
  - *What are costs of medical alternatives to pharmaceutical drugs?*

- *Should no categories of information be prohibited for disclosure or discussion?*
- *What are different price regulation strategies (being implemented or considered by states)?*
- *Are there policy pitfalls and/or potential legal issues associated with any policies?*
- With respect to maximizing the leverage potential of State agency purchasing policies, the point was made that the Cabinet work group charged with value-based and performance-based drug pricing will be addressing state leveraging opportunities. The transparency and cost containment work group should then focus on leveraging opportunities *outside* of value-based state contracting, and edit the charge accordingly.

### **3. Work Group Name**

Participants discussed the name of the work group and made the decision to change to “*Cost Determination and Cost Containment*” to reflect the notion that transparency to consumers, purchasers and regulators is a tool to facilitate strategies to reduce drug costs.

### **4. Next Steps and Meeting Schedule**

Frances will edit draft charter and send it to Vicki Veltri for the Cabinet meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

A schedule of meetings will be developed and may include online option.

Frances adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.