

**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.)

Members excused: Bill Handelman (Nephrology Assoc.), Raul Pino (DPH), 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 8th.

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

Frances adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.