

## Physician Practice Workgroup Meeting Minutes

### February 10, 2022

| Meeting Date      | Meeting Time          | Location                    |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| February 10, 2022 | 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. | Webinar and Conference Call |

#### Participant Name and Attendance

| Physician Practice Workgroup Members |   |                   |   |                   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Rod Acosta                           | X | Lou Fiorillo      | X | Atique Mirza      |   |
| Jean Ahn                             | X | Khuram Ghumman    | X | Robin Gail Oshman | X |
| Rich Almada                          | X | Richard Goldstein | X | Theresa Riordan   |   |
| Marjorie Breen                       | X | Chris Hyers       |   | Robert Russo      |   |
| Ronald Ciesones                      | X | Dinesh Kapur      | X | Michael Steinmetz | X |
| Jeff Cohen                           |   | Alan Kaye         | X | Lisa Trumble      | X |
| Alan Coker                           | X | Steven Lazarus    | X |                   |   |
| Rachel Davis                         | X | Leland McKenna    | X |                   |   |
| Others Present                       |   |                   |   |                   |   |
|                                      |   |                   |   |                   |   |
|                                      |   |                   |   |                   |   |
|                                      |   |                   |   |                   |   |
| Members Absent                       |   |                   |   |                   |   |
| Jeff Cohen                           |   | Theresa Riordan   |   |                   |   |
| Chris Hyers                          |   | Robert Russo      |   |                   |   |
| Atique Mirza                         |   |                   |   |                   |   |

|   | Agenda   | Responsible Person(s)        |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | <b>Call to order and motion to open meeting</b>  | <b>Steven Lazarus</b>        |
|   | The February scheduled meeting of the Physician Practice Workgroup was held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. Steven Lazarus presiding. Attendance taken by roll call by Ron Ciesones. Steven then welcomed everyone and asked for a motion to open the meeting. Marjorie Breen made a motion to start the meeting and a second motion was followed by Alan Kaye. The meeting was officially opened. |                              |
| 2 | <b>Approval of the January 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes</b>   | <b>Steven Lazarus</b>        |
|   | Steven Lazarus asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of the January 13, 2022, meeting. Robin Oshman made a motion to approve the minutes and a second motion was followed by Rod Acosta. The minutes from the January 13, 2022, meeting were officially approved.   |                              |
| 3 | <b>Public Comment</b>  | <b>Steven Lazarus</b>        |
|   | There was no public comment  |                              |
| 4 | <b>Consolidation of Health Care Providers</b>  | <b>Katherine L. Gudiksen</b> |

## Physician Practice Workgroup Meeting Minutes

### February 10, 2022

Steven Lazarus introduced Katherine Gudiksen from The Source on Healthcare Price and Competition who provided the group with a presentation entitled “Consolidation of Healthcare Providers.”

Below are some of the highlights from the presentation.

- An overview of how much health care prices have increased compared to other goods and services purchased by consumers.
- The price of services versus the quality of services.
- A discussion on vertical mergers, horizontal mergers, and cross market mergers and how affiliations have been increasing over time.
- The effects of mergers on prices, quality, and wage growth for each type of merger.
- Options states have for increasing competition such as limiting future anticompetitive consolidation and enhancing existing competition.
- The Oregon Health Authority bill.
- Contracting clauses and increased costs.
- The different types of anticompetitive contracting clauses.
- Antitrust lawsuits on acquisitions.
- Enforcement of laws restricting specific contract terms by states.
- How to keep markets competitive through litigation, legislation, and regulatory oversight.
- Options to enhance existing competition and constrain pricing power.
- Options for Connecticut to consider related to mergers.

A PDF of presentation is available on the OHS website by clicking on the following link which will bring the user to the February 10, 2022, Physician Practice Workgroup page.

<https://portal.ct.gov/OHS/Content/Health-Care-Cabinet/Physician-Practice-Workgroup/Meeting-Agendas>

A discussion related to the data in the presentation took place between members of the workgroup related to the consolidation of health care providers. For more information, please see the meeting recording link on the February 10, 2022, Physician Practice Workgroup page noted above.

Steven Lazarus thanked Katherine Gudiksen for her presentation and answering questions from the workgroup members.

## Physician Practice Workgroup Meeting Minutes

### February 10, 2022

|          |   |                       |
|----------|---|-----------------------|
| <b>5</b> | <b>Future meetings and workgroup data</b>   | <b>Steven Lazarus</b> |
|          | <p>Steven Lazarus indicated that at the next meeting in March, members of the Connecticut Attorney General’s office (Rachel Davis/ Cara Passaro) will be presenting on how their office reviews mergers for antitrust concerns.</p> <p>Steven indicated that in April he would like to have a presentation on the point of view of physicians followed in May by a presentation by hospitals to get their perspective on affiliations. Steve mentioned that he and Ron would help organize any presentations by the members. He mentioned that non-members such as residents and consumers in Connecticut could also present if so desired. He indicated everyone should be respectful of others thoughts and ideas.</p> <p>The members provided some opinions on topics such as patient access, the costs to employers, physician’s perspective, learning more on the corporate practice of medicine, and population health. For more details on the conversation that took place, reference the link above which has a video of the presentation.</p> |                       |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Adjourn</b>  | <b>Steven Lazarus</b> |
|          | <p>The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dinesh Kapur and a second motion was made by Alan Kaye. The motion passed with no one abstaining and the meeting was officially closed. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.</p>   |                       |