

## Minutes: Health Services Advisory Council

*Date: October 11th, 2023, 5:30 - 7:30PM*

Link to meeting: <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mf0851f25dbeb40e2f82e2438aae8141d>

*Note: All committee members and staff attended remotely*

### Attendance

#### Council Members:

- Amy Burt
- Dan Stein
- Scott Hegstad
- Michael Thorn
- Rakesh John
- Samba Fall
- Tenbit Emiru
- Sagar Dugani
- Saudade Samuelson
- Rick Printon

#### DHS Staff:

- Caralyn Schnick
- Diogo Reis
- Laurie Engeldinger
- Matthew Vierzba
- Megan Warfield-Kimball
- Rebecca Engberg
- Sarah Orange
- Cheryl Newgren

#### Guests:

- Bonnie Bolash
- Chuck Sawyer
- Cody Holliday
- Jodi Dorpinghaus
- Kathleen Picard
- Michele Maiers
- Dave Elton

### Welcome

- Quorum established.
- Chair welcomed members.
- Member and staff introductions

### Housekeeping:

- Voting to approve September Minutes  
A voice vote approved the minutes, Tenbit Emiru moved to approve the minutes, Samba Fall seconded the motion. Minutes approved.
- Dan Stein informed the committee that Howard Fink resigned due to other new obligations. We thank him for his service on the committee.
- New policy specialist Mathew Vierzba was introduced to the committee.

### Chiropractic Expansion Presentations

**Rebecca Engberg DHS Policy Specialist-** Presented additional information on: Including treatment of extremities, and DHS data on annual chiropractic visit numbers and prior authorizations for certain visits.

**Kathleen Picard PT, DPT with the American Physical Therapy Association- MN Chapter - Presented:**  
Conservative Management of Spinal Manipulations

## Public Comment

**Chuck Sawyer, DC** - Northwestern Health Sciences University

## Vote on Policy Changes

**#1:** Is one evaluation for established patients per year sufficient for coverage or should MHCP increase to 3+ evaluations per year?

A. Current MHCP policy – 1 evaluation per year – 0 votes

B. Increase to 3 evaluations per year – 3 votes – Scott Hegstad, Amy Burt, Samba Fall

C. Increase to unlimited evaluations per year – 5 votes – Daniel Stein, Rick Printon, Tenbit Emiru, Sagar Dugani,  
Saudade Sammuels, Rakesh John

D – Other – council determined – 0 votes

**Vote decision: To increase unlimited visits per year.**

**#2:** Should MHCP Cover Chiropractic treatment for:

- Neuromusculoskeletal conditions related to the spine?

A. No – current MHCP Coverage – 0

B. Yes – Expand coverage – 9

**Vote decision: Yes, expand coverage.**

- Acute Spinal pain:

A. No – Current MHCP Coverage -1 vote – Tenbit Emiru

B. yes – Expand Coverage – 8 votes - Daniel Stein, Rick Printon, Sagar Dugani, Saudade Sammuels,  
Rakesh John, Amy Burt, Samba Fall, Scott Hegstad

**Vote decision: Yes, expand coverage.**

- Chronic Spinal pain:

A. No – Current MHCP Coverage – 1 vote – Rakesh John

B. Yes – Expand Coverage – 8 votes - Daniel Stein, Rick Printon, Sagar Dugani, Saudade Sammuels,  
Tenbit Emiru, Amy Burt, Samba Fall, Scott Hegstad

**Vote decision: Yes, expand coverage.**

**#3:** Should MHCP cover the following treatment options in addition to spinal manipulation and acupuncture?

- Therapeutic Exercise?

A. No – Current MHCP Coverage – 1 vote – Rakesh John

B. Yes – Expand Coverage – 8 votes - Daniel Stein, Rick Printon, Sagar Dugani, Saudade Sammuels,  
Tenbit Emiru, Amy Burt, Samba Fall, Scott Hegstad

**Vote decision: Yes, expand coverage.**

- Manual therapy techniques?

A. No – Current MHCP Coverage – 0 Votes

B. Yes – Expand Coverage – 9 votes

**Vote decision: Yes, expand coverage.**

#4. Should MHCP require prior authorization for chiropractic treatment for members 12 years of age and younger?

A. Current MHCP Policy – there is not a minimum age requirement – 8 votes - Rick Printon, Sagar Dugani,

Saudade Samuelson, Tenbit Emiru, Amy Burt, Samba Fall, Scott Hegstad, Rakesh John

B. Add requirement for PA for members 12 and younger – 1 vote – Daniel Stein.

**Vote decision: Continue current policy, there is not a minimum age requirement.**

## **Conclusion + Adjournment**

- Thanks given to the council from Diogo – reminder given that these changes will take legislative change and MHCP will keep the council updated as the process for these changes continue.
- Next meeting: topic selection presentation.
- A voice vote confirmed adjournment at 7:33 PM
- Next live meeting will be Wednesday November 8th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.