

Meeting minutes: Medical Services Review Board

Date: Jan. 19, 2023

Minutes prepared by: Lisa Wichterman

Location: Via Webex

Attendance

Members present

Jeff Bonsell, D.C.
Mark Schultz, D.C.
Robin Saunders Ryan, P.T.
Natalie Haefner
Russell Gelfman, M.D.
Beth Baker, M.D.
Erica Kuhlman, M.D.
Matthew Monsein, M.D.
Chad Griffith, M.D.
Kimberly Olson, RN
Lisa Hanselman, O.T.R.

Alternates present

Deborah Zurcher, D.C.
Tammy Brehdahl
Courtney Mitchell, O.T.
Ceil Jung, R.N.
Chris Kramer, P.T.
Laura Breeher, M.D.

Alternates absent

Clyde Markon, M.D.

Staff members present

Kate Daly
Ann Tart
Byron Millea
Ethan Landy
Chris Leifeld
Emily Bannister, M.D.
Pam Carlson

Call to order: Chair Elizabeth Alm

- Roll call by Chris Leifeld.
- Approval of Jan. 19, 2023, agenda and Oct. 13, 2022, meeting minutes. A motion to approve was made by Jeff Bonsell and seconded by Chad Griffith. A roll call vote unanimously approved both.

DLI announcements and updates: Assistant Commissioner Kate Daly

- Nicole Blissenbach is appointed as Department of Labor and Industry commissioner by Gov. Tim Walz.
- Kate Daly is reappointed as DLI assistant commissioner.
- Introduced new members: Clyde Markon, M.D.; and Chris Kramer, P.T.
- The Workers' Compensation Advisory Council will meet Jan. 25, 2023.

RETAIN grant update: Laura Breeher, M.D., and Pam Carlson

An update about the Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network (RETAIN) program was provided by Laura Breeher and Pam Carlson. The program's goal is to increase employment retention and labor force participation of ill and injured individuals and reduce long-term work disability. There are 754 total

participants and 185 active participants. RETAIN's performance tracking, health care partnerships, work force development and call to action were reviewed.

Traumatic brain injury: Uzma Samandani, M.D.

Dr. Uzma Samandani discussed traumatic brain injuries, which are hard to diagnosis and define. The brain is not simple; no two brains are the same and no one brain is the same over time. There are many variables from person to person. Current classification of brain injuries – mild, moderate and severe – do not necessarily correlate with long-term outcomes. There is no standardized way of assessing a brain injury. Samandani described how the EyeBox works to diagnosis brain injuries and compared normal EyeBox scans with concussed scans and severe brain injury. She reviewed a list of questions the department provided about brain injuries and answered questions from board members.

Traumatic Brain Injury Workgroup update: Chris Leifeld

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Workgroup met Dec. 12. Dr. Brionn Tonkin from Veterans Affairs, who specializes in treating patients with TBIs, spoke to the workgroup. A list of questions regarding TBI and treatment was provided to Tonkin before the meeting. He said it is important to identify the mechanism of the injury before diagnosing a TBI. He discussed the tools he felt were beneficial to use in the initial evaluation and follow up examinations and what tools were not as beneficial. Tonkin explained the difference between mild and moderate TBI, the most common treatments, barriers to returning to work and risk factors to prolonged symptoms. The workgroup is looking for an expert who can speak about the types and benefits of eyeglasses used to treat TBI.

Adjournment: Alm and board

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bonsell and seconded by Kim Olson. A roll call vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting dates

- April 20, 2023
- July 21, 2023
- Oct. 13, 2023

