

Agenda & Minutes

Meeting Information:	
Meeting Date & Time:	11/29/2016 9:30am – 10:30 am (Central)
Meeting Title:	PY2018 NA Planning Meeting #4
Called by:	Zane Chrisman, Deputy Commissioner, Regulatory Health Link Division
Mode of meeting	In Person or Phone-in
Attendees	Attachment 1
Attachments* (Agenda, Handouts, PPTs, etc.):	1) Slide deck used available within: http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Default/NetworkAdequacy as "Presentation" under November 29, 2016 Meeting
Agenda:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions & housekeeping • Data submission details • Observations on "Initial PY2018 Provider Type NPI List" • 2018 Letter to the Issuer - Draft • Next step in the process • Other discussions 	

Meeting Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonmoy Dasgupta, IT Oversight & Management, Regulatory Health Link Division (RHLD) welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. • Mr. Dasgupta reiterated the importance an accurate contact list as critical for communications. The Network Adequacy Contact List is currently published on RHLD website at: http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Default/NetworkAdequacy. Jim Gonzalez (Jim.gonzalez@arkansas.gov) remains the RHLD contact for all modifications to the list. • Mr. Dasgupta pointed out the progress in the Network Adequacy process : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "PY 2018 Industry Provider Additions/Deletions Suggestions" published November 15, 2016 per schedule. ○ Industry Objections and RHLD Finalization due December 15, 2016. ○ Finally publishing of the "Finalized PY 2018 Provider Type NPI List" scheduled by January 15, 2017. • The rationale of the efforts to refine the Provider lists was reiterated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provider-Type-NPI-pools constitute the input for the average distance calculation programs that generate the reports required for submission to AID. ○ AID has observed justifications that come later in the process stating that provider(s) has been misclassified with the argument that the access statistics is actually better than it appears. ○ This is the issuers' chance to avoid the need for such justifications. • A discussion of Data Submission details followed with an example using a slide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Industry to work on the "PY 2018 Industry Provider Additions/Deletions Suggestions" spreadsheet and submit feedback to AID's secure FTP server. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use document "General Data Submission Process to RHLD" within http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Info/Public/Templates for FTP Server details. ▪ Use document "PY2018 NA Review Process" within http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Default/NetworkAdequacy for filenames ○ Feedback due by December 15, 2016

- A sample of industry initiated changes to the PY2018 Industry Provider Type list was reviewed with the following observations.
 - Provider Type NPI Pools appear to be undergoing aggressive reductions except for the Dental Provider Types.
 - The PY2017 finalized list included NPI's from issuers who may not be active participants in the ongoing Provider Type NPI Pool data maintenance. It is possible that they may find their contracted NPI's disappearing from the agreed upon list.
 - A large majority of the removals are in agreement with at least two issuers.
 - The majority of removals appear to be of non-Arkansan provider locations.

Mr. Dasgupta pointed out the Department had initial concerns over the scale of changes in the Provider-Type-NPI pools but felt that it was best for industry to settle on this list with minimal involvement from the Department beyond facilitating the industry data agreement.

- Explanations were provided to issuers to complete the "PY2018 Industry Provider Type Addition-Deletion Suggestions" template.
 - If an objection is made, the following are required:
 - The NAIC# of the issuer
 - A relevant reason for the objection. The reason has become a mandatory field following lessons learned from PY2017, when this phase had to be redone by issuers following significant disagreements between issuers and between submissions by the same issuer. The absence of an objection reason would be construed as agreement with the suggested change.
 - Some discussion ensued how the 60 mile specialist distance may actually encompass providers that are not in counties contiguous to Arkansas and may be two or three counties outside of the border. If Arkansans in border areas are better served by specialty providers further from contiguous counties, the Department would not object to their inclusion in the Provider-Type-NPI-pools.
- A slide presented the schedule of past and current dates of CMS Draft versus Final version publication of the "Letter to Issuers" and "Payment Parameters". It was pointed out that comments are due back to CMS/CCIIO on the 2018 "Letter to the Issuer" by December 1, 2016.
- Industry questions and concerns during the meeting included:
 - A discussion concerned the new requirement to provide a Hospital Bed ratio to Enrollees.
 - The issuers felt there was little value in the ratio or its compilation because the number of hospitals in any region within Arkansas was not significant to show change over time. The Department agreed to take this argument into consideration.
 - The industry agreed to provide feedback on a Department of Health hospital list to be furnished by the Insurance Department. Industry would provide participating or non-participating status as well as associated NPI.
 - Clarification was provided that the intended Hospital bed ratio will only include acute beds, in line with Medicare

definition for the Hospital metric.

- Next steps for industry include:
 - Review “PY2018 Industry Provider Type Addition-Deletion Suggestions” posted in <http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Default/NetworkAdequacy>
 - Objections (if any) on above data due to AID on **Thursday, 12/15/2016**.
 - Review “Finalized PY2018 Provider Type-NPI list” to be posted in <http://rhld.insurance.arkansas.gov/Default/NetworkAdequacy> by January 15, 2017.
 - Next meeting on NA tentatively on **Thursday January 19, 2017, 9:30am – 11:00 am** (unless AID calls for an earlier meeting due to problematic data submissions). AID expects to communicate its PY2018 NA data submission requirements in that meeting.
- Prior to the close of the meeting, Zane Chrisman, Deputy Commissioner, addressed some broader planning topics beyond Network Adequacy. The topics are listed in Attachment 2 of this document.
- Tonmoy Dasgupta, IT Oversight & Management, adjourned the meeting at 10:21 am.

Attachment1

Name	Organization	Attendance Mode
Benjamin M. Butler	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Yes
Teresa White	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Yes
Amanda Hatfield	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Yes
Dan Stevens	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Yes
Jordan Burgess	Delta	Yes
Karen Green	Qualchoice	Yes
Mark Johnson	Qualchoice	Yes
Jim Gonzalez	Arkansas Insurance Department	Yes
Tonmoy Dasgupta	Arkansas Insurance Department	Yes
Chantel Allbritton	Arkansas Insurance Department	Yes
Donna Lambert	Arkansas Insurance Department	Yes
Zane Chrisman	Arkansas Insurance Department	Yes
George Gorman	AR Health and Wellness	Yes
Bryan Meldrum	AR Health and Wellness	Yes
Jayna Harley	AETNA	Online
Jamie Gilmore	AR Health and Wellness	Online
Kris Hathaway	NADP	Online
Edie Arey	Delta	Online
Clyde Martin	AETNA	Online
Mary Chmelka	Ameritas	Online
Jeff Brinsfield	Qualchoice	Online
Ragenea Thompson	United	Online
Liz Hubbard	Qualchoice	Online
Katherine Therrien	AETNA	Online
Zorina White	AETNA	Online
Geri McKeown	Ameritas	Online

Attachment2

General PY2018 Plan Management Topics

- Draft URRT deadline letter has been released for comment.
- NAIC and states are requesting that the URRT deadline be pushed back until after the Risk Adjustment report has been issued for the Effective Rate Review States. Companies may wish to voice their concerns about the rate filing deadlines as well.
- Current tentative deadlines based on the draft notices are as follows: April 3, 2017 for forms and templates, and June 1, 2017 for rates.
- Due to the shortened review times for the states on forms and templates, please make sure that this process is started early and reviewed using the tools available prior to submission. Additionally, because Arkansas is now taking a strict approach on rate filing deadlines, all rate filings need to be reviewed and complete before filing.
- Limited time will be available to review and allow corrections to filings this year.
- If issuers have any questions or would like Zane Chrisman to relay their concerns or comments to CCIO, please have these to her by COB December 6, 2016.