

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties Health Care Integration Work Group Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	9:30 am, June 11, 2024 Online Via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Deanna Barclay
PRESENTERS	Daphne Peck, Communications and Outreach Analyst, Oregon Health Authority
WORKGROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Menna Alamia, Shelagh Baird, Deanna Barclay, Carolyn Black, Monica Boylan, Barbie Christianson, Mandy Clark, Karol Elizondo, Annie Gottfried
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Connie Adams, Kristi Collins, Antonia Huerta, Matt, Grams, Ana Jinguang Lin, Reyes, Sam Rounsavell, Carmen Santacruz, Kelly Schell, Leanne Trask
RECORDED	Yes

Agenda Topics

Discussion Item	Welcome and Introductions
Workgroup members introduced themselves.	

Special Presentation	Daphne Peck, Communications and Outreach Analyst, Oregon Health Authority
<p>Daphne introduced herself and shared a list of acronyms that might appear in her presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OHA: Oregon Health Authority OHP: Oregon Health Plan HERC: Health Evidence Review Commission VbBS: Value-based Benefits Subcommittee HSD: Health Services Division DME: Durable Medical Equipment LARC: long-acting reversible contraception ICD-10: medical billing codes CPT or HCPCS codes: medical procedure codes <p>She introduced the work of the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC). The Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) serves Oregon citizens by ensuring that certain medical procedures, devices, and tests paid for with Medicaid dollars are safe and proven to work. The Commission produces technical reports about complex topics called coverage guidance. Using medical evidence and expert opinion along with values and preferences, HERC decides the best treatment for complex conditions that require in-depth study.</p>	

Daphne developed a searchable Prioritized List of Health Services to help both OHP members and CCOs know what treatment is covered for specific conditions. Using medical evidence, HERC decides which of these services to cover on the Oregon Health Plan.

HERC outreach began in 2022. Daphne was hired as a Communications and Outreach Analyst in 2023. Outreach focuses on groups such as:

- The Oregon Health Authority
- The Ombuds Team
- Community Advisory Councils
- Community Health Partners

The HERC outreach aims to deeply listen and then take action from the community feedback.

The legislature has limited HERC's influence for items such as:

- Denture replacements
- Eyeglasses
- Health Systems Division (HSD) Rules
- Pharmaceuticals
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

HERC holds staff-led listening sessions. Listening sessions offer a chance to discuss Oregon Health Plan coverage topics with Commission staff. Three pilot sessions were held in 2023, and in 2024, they began to be held quarterly.

Part of Daphne's job is to connect with members and act as a resource broker. She often refers people to the Ombuds team. The Oregon Health Authority has a team of staff who advocate for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members. These staff are called OHP Ombudspersons. The goal of the Ombuds team is to ensure that OHP members get quality health care.

OHP members should contact the Ombuds Program if they have a concern about the services they get from OHP or if they want to share a compliment.

Member concerns are brought to HERC by the Ombuds.

Contact the Ombuds Office at OHA.OmbudsOffice@odhsoha.oregon.gov, 1-877-642-0450 - Message line only, or <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/erd/pages/ombuds-program.aspx>

The HERC website is written and all meetings are held in plain language to be more accessible to all. Daphne shared some plain language examples.

Daphne reviewed the changes to the Oregon Health Plan happening in January 2027. The Center for Medicaid and Medicare services will require all medically necessary benefits within categories to be in the State plan, which means those services should be covered, and all medically necessary needs of an individual be covered rather than prioritizing lists based on population. The Commission will stay

in place and review services for medical necessity. OHP Members will not lose benefits.

The workgroup asked how many people and from what specialties sit on the HERC Commission. The 13-member Board is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Daphne shared the statute related to HERC.

According to ORS 414.688 to 414.704(2)

The Health Evidence Review Commission is established in the Oregon Health Authority, consisting of 13 members appointed by the Governor in consultation with professional and other interested organizations, and confirmed by the Senate, as follows:

(a) Five members must be physicians licensed to practice medicine in this state who have clinical expertise in the areas of family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics, perinatal health, pediatrics, disabilities, geriatrics or general surgery. One of the physicians must be a doctor of osteopathic medicine, and one must be a hospital representative or a physician whose practice is significantly hospital-based.

(b) One member must be a dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 who has clinical expertise in general, pediatric or public health dentistry.

(c) One member must be a public health nurse.

(d) One member must be a behavioral health representative who may be a social services worker, alcohol and drug treatment provider, psychologist or psychiatrist.

(e) Two members must be consumers of health care who are patient advocates or represent the areas of indigent services, labor, business, education or corrections.

(f) One member must be a complementary or alternative medicine provider who is a chiropractic physician licensed under ORS chapter 684, a naturopathic physician licensed under ORS chapter 685 or an acupuncturist licensed under ORS chapter 677.

(g) One member must be an insurance industry representative who may be a medical director or other administrator.

(h) One member must be a pharmacy representative who engages in the practice of pharmacy at a retail drug outlet.

(3) No more than six members of the commission may be physicians either in active practice or retired from practice.

Daphne shared links to the HERC members

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-HERC/Pages/Members.aspx>

She also shared other helpful links.

Searchable list: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-HERC/Pages/Searchable-List.aspx>.

How to participate in HERC - <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-HERC/Pages/public-input-opportunities.aspx>

How to participate in HERC Listening Sessions -

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-HERC/Pages/listening-sessions.aspx>

HERC Contact info: 503.580.9792, HERC.Info@OHA.Oregon.Gov

The workgroup asked where to send families who have coverage issues. Daphne responded that Individual denials go to Ombuds team and systemic issues go to HERC.

The workgroup shared a list of Community Advisory Council meetings in our area with Daphne and will invite her to future meetings.

The workgroup discussed the concept of medical necessity at the level of population health to better understand the changes happening in 2027.

Discussion Item	Early Learning Hub Update
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Kristi shared that applications for Free Preschool are open, and slots are filling quickly. Information about specific programs can be found at <https://pollywogfamily.org/free-preschool/>

Discussion Item	Kindergarten Readiness Metric Update
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The Kindergarten Readiness Metric is being transitioned to Menna. She introduced herself to the workgroup malamia@samhealth.org

Discussion Item	Asset Mapping Update
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Connie gave an update on the Asset Mapping project. Two sessions have been held so far. We have gathered very interesting information, and those reports will be available soon. We are going to Alsea next and then Lebanon in July.

Discussion Item	HCI Business
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Community Capacity Building Funds (Grant application). The CCO has received 39 applications. Two community comment sessions are planned.

1115 Waiver Timeline Update

- Climate-Related Supports went live for Members in March 2024
- Housing Services for Members at risk of homelessness will be in effect in November 2024
- Nutrition Services for Members in HRSN Covered Populations will be in effect January 2025

Sam shared about Pollywog's new publishing program Issuu and presented the Pollywog Family Summer Events Guide to the workgroup.

Discussion Item	HCI Summer Meeting Schedule
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Typically, this workgroup skips at least one meeting in the Summer. The workgroup decided to cancel the August meeting.

Discussion Item	New Business
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None

Next Meeting	9:30 am, July 9, 2024 Online Via Zoom
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Meeting Adjourned	10:32 am
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