



COUNCIL ON DENTAL BENEFIT PROGRAMS

April 28, 2017

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Hoddick, James, Chair (8)
Cooper, Ada (NY)
Buchalter, Alyson (2)
Hosoyama, Shig (3)
Korkosz, Adrienne (4)
Bozek, Walter (5)
Lacey, Frederick (6)

Keating, Michael (7)
Cuomo, Christopher (9)
Porcelli, Eugene (N)
Jhaveri, Viren (Q)
Guariglia, John (S)
Samuels, Jacqueline (B)
Galati, James (BOT Liaison)

The Council on Dental Benefit Programs met on Friday, April 28, 2017, at the NYSDA office in Albany, NY. Dr. Jhaveri participated via telephone. All remaining members were present with the exception of Drs. Cooper, Korkosz, Lacey and Cuomo. Dr. Steven Snyder attended as the Second Trustee Caucus Representative to the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs. Dr. Galati attended both as the liaison from the Board of Trustees and as a substitute for Dr. Korkosz. Dr. Patricia Hanlon, chair of the Special Committee on Dental Medicaid, and Dr. Mark Feldman, NYSDA Executive Director, participated for a portion of the meeting via telephone. Dr. Judith Shub, NYSDA Assistant Executive Director, and Ms. Jacquie Donnelly, NYSDA staff, also attended.

The chair called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and welcomed the council. He asked the members to introduce themselves. There being no additions, corrections or deletions, the council adopted the minutes from its previous meeting on December 7, 2016, as written.

Chair Report

The chair briefly reviewed the agenda and discussed the letter that MetLife is sending to providers directing them to sign up to receive payment via electronic funds transfer (EFT). He added that, while non-participating practitioners are not compelled to accept EFT, those who have signed a participating provider agreement would need to review their contract language. He then promoted the importance of utilizing the ADA's Contract Analysis Service.

The chair informed the council that the Eighth District Dental Society and the University of Buffalo dental school are sponsoring a Remote Area Medical event at St. Bonaventure University on June 10-11.

ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs Report

Dr. Snyder reviewed highlights of the written report provided to the council on the activities of the ADA Council. He recommended that the NYSDA council review existing NYSDA policy and urged the council to promote the adoption of “non-covered services” legislation in New York.

Special Committee on Dental Medicaid Update

The council received a written report from the Special Committee on Dental Medicaid. Dr. Patricia Hanlon, chair of the committee, discussed the report and answered questions from the council members. The discussion focused on the role of the committee and whether the council should recommend to the House of Delegates that the committee be continued. The chair expressed concerns that the committee duplicates the role of the council and that parts of the state are not represented.

Dr. Buchalter proposed a resolution recommending that the House of Delegates continue the Medicaid committee. Dr. Guariglia seconded it and it was adopted by the council. Five members voted in favor of the resolution; three voted against it.

The council will include a charge to the committee as part of its resolution to the House of Delegates:

1. The committee will not address individual problems but will identify systemic problems and suggest solutions. i.e., review global issues that NYSDA can address through the adoption of new policy;
2. The committee will compile complaints and track patient complaints.

Component Issues

The members reported on related problems encountered by members of their components. These included:

- Requests to recover alleged over-payment
- Denial of claims subsequent to prior approval
- MetLife’s letters mandating that dentists accept payment via electronic funds transfer (EFT)
- Whether patient can obtain dental benefits if they use the Smile Direct Club for orthodontic treatment
- Dissatisfaction with managed care contract fees
- Changes in plan administrators

The chair discussed concerns raised by one of his colleagues about another colleague’s reported charges for a cone beam scan.

NYSDA HIPAA Security Compliance Course

Dr. Shub and Ms. Donnelly discussed NYSDA's HIPAA Security Compliance Course. Several components have scheduled courses and one will be presented at the NYSDA House of Delegates meeting at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino on June 1.

Old Business

NYSDA's Board of Trustees transmitted a recommendation from the Strategic Planning Committee "to study and make recommendations regarding achieving 'better reimbursement levels for Medicaid.'" The council considered the request but believes the council is not the correct platform to develop strategies to improve Medicaid reimbursement and suggests that it falls under the umbrella of Governmental Affairs. The Council members will seek input from their respective component dental societies and be available to support the actions of the Council on Governmental Affairs.

Dr. Porcelli inquired about the status of the resolution the council adopted at its previous meeting in December 2016:

Resolved: That NYSDA direct NYSDA Support Services to consider the feasibility of developing an endorsed panel of consultants who negotiate participating provider contracts on behalf of dentists as a membership benefit.

The Council will submit the resolution to the 2017 House of Delegates.

Lastly, Dr. Hosoyama informed the council that the Special Olympics will be held in Albany on June 16 at Siena College.

Council Chair Nomination

The council unanimously voted to recommend Dr. James Hoddick to incoming NYSDA President Dr. Lawrence Busino for consideration as the nominee for council chair for June 2017-June 2018. If approved, this will be Dr. Hoddick's second and final year as chair.

Adjournment

The council selected Wednesday, November 15, 2017, as the date for its next meeting. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. There being no additional business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Hoddick, DDS". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing 'J' and 'H'.

James A. Hoddick, DDS, Chair