

IMPROVING ACCESS WORK GROUP

MINUTES

November 17, 2015

Next meeting

Beginning of January, at DVHA

In attendance

MEAB members: on the phone-- Dale Hackett, Madeleine Mongan, Christina Colombe; in person-- Paul Bakeman, Joan Lavoie, Kay Van Woert, Barb Prine, Trinka Kerr

DVHA staff: Aaron French, Clark Eaton; Commissioner Costantino was unable to attend.

Other SOV staff: Dani Delong (AHS Medicaid Policy), Betty Morse (Children with Special Health Needs, VDH)

Minutes by Trinka Kerr

AGENDA

1. Work Group Priorities
2. Prior Authorizations

Work Group Priorities Discussion

The WG members met for the first 45 minutes without DVHA staff (except for Clark) in order to discuss its priorities. We decided generally to only meet on a quarterly basis, unless we have a specific issue that we want to work on. We then decided that the first issue would be ways to improve prior authorizations because we'd already started doing some research on that topic, and that we would meet in January to work on that issue.

Aaron and Dani joined us at the end of this discussion.

Prior Authorizations

The WG wants to improve the prior authorization system because it can be cumbersome and a barrier to care. We are searching for specific ideas for improvements.

Madeleine spoke very briefly about the state laws on prior authorizations from Maryland and Colorado that she had found. She will do a 10 minutes (+/-) summary of her research at the January meeting.

Kay will talk to some physician practices she knows about problems they see and any suggestions they have.