

Joint Health Care Committee (JHCC)

Agenda

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

1:00pm – 3:00pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Unions:

- UNAC: Jill Dumesnil (JHCC Chair), Melanie Arthur, ~~Tim Hinterberger, Richie Berndt~~ (Alternate)
- Local 6070: ~~Jeff Culley, Dustin Gridley, Eric Kissinger~~, Shane Crawford (Alternate)
- FFA: Joy Beth Cottle, ~~Greg Bean~~ (Alternate)

Management: Jonathan Lasinski, ~~Luke Fulp, Ryan Buchholdt~~, Jason Theis (Alternate)

Staff Alliance: Rachel Potter, Brandon McKinney, _____ (Alternate)

Ex-Officio: ~~Memry Dahl~~, Heather Arana

Support Staff: Tanya Hollis, Jenn Clapp, Timothy Armbruster, Alex Slivka

Guests and Speakers: David Hinckley (Lockton), Ellen Izer (Premera), Josephine Young (Premera), Nadja Hipszer (Premera), Kristin Lara (Premera)

AGENDA

1:00 pm Call to order

Roll call

Approve draft agenda

Approval of notes from Jun 18, 2025

Topics for discussion and Reports/Review/Action:

New Business:

1:05 pm Chair report

1:10 pm Dr. Josephine Young, Medical Director Premera

- Pledge to improve Prior Authorization Process. Premera represents that they are generally already meeting these criteria, including transparency and “human touch” in cases of denial. <2% of processed claims are reviewed, and then there is a process that involves possible appeal.
- Premera’s clinical policies undergo ongoing updates. The policies are [here](#).
- Aims in utilization review come from Institute for Healthcare Improvement recommendations
 - o Clinical outcomes
 - o Patient experience
 - o Provider satisfaction
 - o Financial affordability
 - o Healthy communities
- 2001 to 2021 cancer incidence and mortality have been declining. We continue to see racial disparities.
- Current screening includes
 - o Colorectal
 - o Cervical

- o Breast
- o Lung
- o Prostate
- o Together these account for about ½ of cancers
- o New screenings are in the works

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2:10 pm EviCore program start explanation by Premera

- Only contracted for outpatient therapy
- Alaska is well above the norm for massage/physical therapy/rehab services
- Can revisit later in the plan year

2:37 pm Humira cost saving - rebate review

- Cost is dropping significantly with move to biosimilars, and there is a significant rebate to use of Humira as those have come online. Need more time to see where this comes out. Probably end of plan year.

2:45 pm COBRA provisions

- 60 days from date of notification of resignation to elect COBRA coverage, or last date of eligibility – whichever is later. Bottom line: 9 month employees who resign during the summer months can elect COBRA coverage even if their resignation is more than 60 days after the end of the 9 month contract.

2:50 pm Member Comments

2:58 pm Adjourn

Next Meeting: August 27, 2025