

**Vermont Vaccine Purchasing Pool Pilot Program
 Immunization Advisory Committee meeting
 Vermont Department of Health
 August 27, 2013**

In Attendance:

<u>Vermont Dept of Health</u> Chris Finley, Amanda LaScala, Patsy Kelso, Bessie Weiss, Heidi Klein <u>Dept of Vermont Health Access</u> Jennifer Egelhof, Mary Beth Bizzari <u>Cigna Healthcare</u> Ann Collins <u>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont</u> Pam Biron Geera Demers <u>VCHIP</u> Wendy Davis, M.D.	<u>Public</u> Laura Condon Jennifer Stella Lisa McKenzie Reno Soucy – GSK Paul Madrazzo – GSK
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8/15/13 Invoice

Amanda LaScala discussed the 8/15/13 invoices that were sent to insurers. The 8/15 invoices cover the payment period of July 1, 2013-December 31, 2013. Payment is due by 9/15/13. Annual reconciliation will occur at the end of 2013, reconciling estimated versus actual vaccine costs. Credits or debits will be incorporated into billing for the first quarter of 2014.

KidsVax.org contract

A contract between the Vermont Department of Health and KidsVax.org to enhance the billing process and ensure it is timely is currently being negotiated and drafted. Contracting considerations re: KidsVax.org were reviewed at the May 7, 2013 Advisory meeting.

CDC elimination of the Advance Credit Model

Chris Finley discussed the CDC elimination of the advance credit model. CDC has informed states that effective 10/1/13 they may no longer place provider orders for vaccine purchased with state funding(health insurer fee assessments) that have not been pre-paid. This will not be a problem for the fourth quarter (Oct-Dec 2013) because 2013 fee assessments were for six months and were completed with the 8/15 invoices. VDH is seeking insurer input on how to address the need for prospective payment beginning in January. Vermont may need to consider adding reserve funding as has been done in NH and ME.

Legislative proposal

The Pilot statute will sunset on Dec 31, 2014. In order to continue a universal vaccine program in Vermont with pediatric and adult vaccines purchased from the federal contract, legislation is needed. Advisory Committee input was requested and the following ideas were shared:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont (BCBSVT) commented that they would like to see participation of health care practices required; or that at a minimum practices

- participating in the Blueprint patient centered medical home model be required to receive vaccine from the State. Cigna stated that they agreed with BCBSVT.
- UVM/VCHIP commented that they would like to see that quality assurance language be in legislation, specifically quality improvement activities.
 - BCBSVT commented that currently there are no cost contracts between insurers and the Blueprint when the Blueprint went from pilot to program. Would the same occur in this case?
 - Bessie Weiss responded that it is too soon to say/know what form an agreement would take, whether it be a contract, an MOU or in rule.

317 funding reductions

Chris Finley reviewed the federal 317 funding reductions over the past three years.

Public Comment

Paul Madrazzo (GSK): Questioned whether or not stakeholders will be able to review a draft of pending legislation prior to submittal.

- Yes, when there is a draft ready for circulation. David Englander is the VDH lead.

Laura Condon: Questioned the status of the KidsVax.org contract and who decides to contract.

- There is no signed agreement between the State of Vermont and KidsVax.org. The decision to pursue a contract was made by the Vermont Department of Health and the Vermont Vaccine Purchasing Pool Immunization Advisory Committee.

Jennifer Stella: Sought clarification regarding the comment BCBSVT made about requiring Blueprint medical homes to participate; would this require patients to be vaccinated?

- No, the Pilot is a vaccine financing mechanism.

Next Meeting – to be determined.

12:40pm – Adjourn.