

Health Care Professional Payment Parity
Senate Proposal of Amendment to H. 29
Green Mountain Care Board
5/10/17

- The Board is moving forward with this work, as charged in Act 54 of 2015:
 - “The Board may direct a health insurer to submit modifications to its plan and shall approve, modify, or reject the plan. Upon approval of a plan pursuant to this section the Board shall require any Vermont academic medical center to accept the reimbursement included in the plan, through the hospital budget process and other appropriate enforcement mechanisms.” [Act 54 (2015), Sec. 23(5)(b)]
- Goals of the Board for fair and equitable provider reimbursement:
 - Ease consumer co-insurance and/or premiums
 - Contain total cost of care
 - Promote access to high quality care
 - Support primary care providers
 - Support independent practices within VT’s regulatory framework and payment reform efforts
 - Maintain access to critical hospital services
- There are additional factors that influence the business viability of independent practices in addition to commercial reimbursement, including Medicaid reimbursement rates, challenges of running a complex business, EMR implementation, income security, lifestyle preference, and ACA and ACO incentives for integrated health care systems.
- The GMCB held a 1.5-hour hearing on the issue on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at its public Board Meeting. The first work group meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2017. The results of the 4/27 meeting were:
 - The GMCB will conduct a study and provide a report to you that analyzes the retention of independent providers in VT. The study will look at reimbursement factors as well as administrative burden, financial risks, professional lifestyle preferences and contracting complexities and other factors that influence choice of practice location.
 - The GMCB will convene a working group meeting monthly, that will identify and provide to HROC a timeline and implementation plan for site neutral reimbursement of services and procedures that can be safely performed in or out of the hospital setting.
 - Require that provider practices acquired by UVMMC after October 1, 2017 be reimbursed on the same basis as prior to the date of acquisition.
 - As part of its evaluation of its regulatory processes to align with implementation of the All-Payer ACO Model Agreement, the Board will explore additional longer term recommendations for measuring and aligning payments across providers and care settings.

Statutory Charge and Actions to Date – All reports available on the GMCB website at:

<http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/publications/legislative-reports/provider-reimbursement-reports>

Deliverables and Actions	Date and Charge
<p>MVP and BCBSVT implementation plans for providing fair and equitable reimbursement</p> <p>MVP plan: http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/MVP-VT-ACT54-Implementation-Plan.pdf</p> <p>BCBSVT plan: http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/BCBSVT-Act-54-Implementation-Plan.pdf</p>	<p>July 2016</p> <p>[Act 54, Sec. 23(5)(b)]</p>
<p>GMCB met with stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MVP: Susan Gretkowski, Craig Jasenski, George Thomson - UVMHC: Todd Keating, Meg O’Donnell, Todd Moore, Rick Vincent - BCBSVT: Andrew Garland, Jimmy Mauro, Cory Gustafson - HealthFirst: Amy Cooper - Bi-State Primary Care Association: Sharon Winn - VAHHS: Mike Del Trecco 	<p>November 2016</p> <p>Stakeholder process</p>
<p>GMCB update to HROC, HHC, SHW, SFC http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/content/act-143-2016-section-5-memo-reducing-payment-differentials</p>	<p>December 2016</p> <p>[Act 143, Sec. 5]</p>
<p>GMCB report to HHC, SHW, SFC http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/content/act-143-2016-section-4-provider-reimbursement-report</p>	<p>February 2016</p> <p>[Act 143, Sec. 4]</p>
<p>MVP and BCBSVT submitted “site-neutrality” modifications requested by GMCB</p> <p>MVP modifications http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/sites/gmcb/files/files/resources/reports/GMCB%20March%2031%202017-MVP%20submission%20merged.pdf</p> <p>BCBSVT http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/sites/gmcb/files/files/resources/reports/BCBSVT%20Act%20143%20revised%20Reimbursement%20Plan%20Final%203-15-17.pdf</p>	<p>March 2017</p> <p>Modifications requested by GMCB</p>
<p>GMCB Meeting Agenda Meeting materials are posted here: http://gmcboard.vermont.gov/board/meetings/minutes/2017</p>	<p>April 27, 2017</p> <p>GMCB Board Public Process consistent with 2/1/17 Board report recommendations</p>