

HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The following is a summary of items heard by the Board.

CalOptima Earns Higher Accreditation Status From NCQA

CEO Michael Schrader announced that the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), the nation's leading organization dedicated to improving health care quality, increased CalOptima's accreditation status to "commendable" based on its annual review of the agency's 2016 HEDIS quality data. This designation indicates that CalOptima meets or exceeds NCQA's rigorous requirements for consumer protection and quality improvement. HEDIS data consists of 81 measures across five domains of care and is designed to reflect an organization's quality of care and services. CalOptima attained this higher accreditation status largely through improvements in service and member experience scores. CalOptima's commendable accreditation will be reflected on NCQA's Health Plan Report Card, which will be released on September 15.

Federal and State Regulatory and Legislative Updates to Benefit CalOptima's PACE Center

Mr. Schrader shared news about federal and state developments that are likely to have a positive impact on CalOptima PACE. At the federal level, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently published a proposed rule to update PACE regulations. CMS' proposal revises the requirements for PACE, aiming to provide organizations with more administrative and operational flexibility while strengthening protections and improving care for participants. Under the proposed rules, CalOptima PACE would be able to make operational changes that deliver more effective and cost-efficient care to participants. At the state level, the health care budget trailer bill, SB 833, contains the PACE Modernization Act, which makes a significant change to the PACE rate setting methodology. Rates vary by geographic area, and Southern California generally has lower reimbursement rates. Under the current methodology, CalOptima is reimbursed at the second lowest rate of all PACE programs in the state. The act will introduce a new process for calculating PACE reimbursement rates that is more likely to account for geographic rate disparity, which may increase CalOptima's PACE rates.

CalOptima to Support Development of Orange County Strategic Plan for Aging

The Board authorized an expenditure in support of developing an Orange County Strategic Plan for Aging (OCSPA), in partnership with Alzheimer's Orange County, the Orange County Health Care Agency, Orange County United Way and other community partners. The OCSPA will be based on a review of existing data and will focus on key issues of importance to older county residents, including health care, housing needs and food insecurity. Alzheimer's Orange County will provide support and in-kind management for the development of the OCSPA. There are currently more than 400,000 Orange County residents over the age of 65, and CalOptima manages care for 17.5 percent of this population through its Medi-Cal, OneCare Connect, OneCare and PACE programs.