

ASD Advisory Committee Notes — September 28, 2016 Meeting

Notes compiled by Sharon Flanagan-Hyde, Facilitator

Participants

- Rene Bartos, MD, MPH, FAAP, Medical Director, Mercy Care Plan
- Robin K. Blitz, MD, FAAP, Chief, Developmental Pediatrics, Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's Hospital
- Aaron Blocher-Rubin, PhD, BCBA/LBA, Chief Executive Officer, Arizona Autism United
- Nancy Buckner, MD, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Phoenix Children's Hospital (phone)
- Mark Carroll, MD, Physician Program Consultant, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) (phone)
- Bryan Davey, PhD, BCBA-D, Chief Executive Officer, HOPE Group, LLC; President, Highland Behavioral
- Don J. Fowls, MD, Medical Strategies (formerly Chief Medical Officer), Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care (MMIC), RBHA
- Scharlie Gerard-Wolfe, Program Specialist – DDD Liaison, Program Development, Cenpatico Integrated Care (C-IC), RBHA (phone)
- Diedra Freedman, JD, Board Secretary/Treasurer, Arizona Autism Coalition
- Danny Kessler, MD, FAAP, Retired Developmental Pediatrician
- Joanna Kowalik, MD, DES/DDD Chief Medical Officer
- Cynthia Macluskie, Vice President, Board of Directors, Autism Society of Greater Phoenix
- Jon Meyers, Executive Director, The Arc of Arizona
- Ann Monahan, Board President, Arizona Autism Coalition; Vice President, State and Governmental Affairs, H.O.P.E. Group, LLC (phone)
- Leslie Paulus, MD, PhD, FACP, Medical Director, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
- Jared Perkins, MPA, Director of Operations, Children's Clinics; Vice President, Autism Society of Southern Arizona
- Sydney Rice, MD, MSd, Board-certified Developmental Pediatrician; Associate Professor, Pediatrics, The University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson (phone)
- Christopher Tiffany M.A. Ed., Director of Family Support and Education, Raising Special Kids (phone)
- Brian van Meerten, MEd, BCBA, LBA, Director of Behavioral Health Services, Behavioral Consultation Services of Northern, Arizona, LLC (BCSNA) (phone)
- Ginger Ward, MAEd, Chief Executive Officer, Southwest Human Development
- Sherri Wince, DES/DDD ALTCS Administrator

NIMH Study on Early Detection for ASD

Christopher J. Smith, Ph.D. Vice President & Director of Research, SARRC, gave a presentation on the NIMH Study and answered questions. See slides for details.

Update on DDD Habilitation-Consultation Services

Joanna Kowalik, MD, DES/DDD Chief Medical Officer gave an update on DDD's Habilitation-Consultation service implementation plans and short- and long-term implications and answered questions. Key points and participant comments included:

- Finalized implementation guidelines to offer time specific and targeted Habilitation-Consultation to DD ALTCS members.
- Working out financial and billing issues.
- Accessed research on cost savings across the lifespan for individuals with ASD.
- DD will coordinate with health plans to address acute medical conditions.
- Hope to implement within the next 12 months, as soon as billing and financial support issues are resolved.
- Will be posting draft policy for public comments.
- Will do structured, standardized reporting to track changes.
- AHCCCS supportive of DDD rolling this out.
- As of 10/1/18, services will be integrated for members with and at risk for ASD.
- Given the carve out, AHCCCS considered an interim approach until 10/1/18 that would have moved ASD from a behavioral health diagnosis to an acute diagnosis, but after considering multiple factors, including the disruption to individuals and families of a transition in April 2017 and another one in October 2018, decided not to implement an interim approach.
- RBHAs and CRS are currently responsible for services for non-ALTCS DDD members.
- It is difficult for BCBAs to get into the behavioral health system; problem is restriction in getting license from the ADHS Bureau of Medical Facilities Licensing.

Telemedicine/Telehealth and Parent-mediated Treatments

Robin Blitz, MD, FAAP, Chief, Developmental Pediatrics, Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's Hospital, gave a presentation on Arizona Future Possibilities - Telemedicine/Telehealth and Parent-mediated Treatments and answered questions. See slides for details. Dr. Blitz also talked about the work of Dr. Amy Wetherby, CCC-SLP and the SCERTS Model – Social Communication, Emotional Regulation, and Transactional Support. Information is available at <http://www.scerts.com>.

Dr. Mark Carroll, Physician Program Consultant, AHCCCS, will give an update on AHCCCS opening up the telehealth code at the next ASD Advisory Committee meeting in January.

Information on RBHA Providers

Cynthia Macluskie, Vice President, Board of Directors, Autism Society of Greater Phoenix, asked for information about how families can get up-to-date information about the list of providers comfortable diagnosing autism and a list of services that are available from each

plan. Dr. Sara Salek said AHCCCS is working on developing the network of providers and working with RBHAs to streamline the referral process. She showed an example of a provider list available on the Cenpatico website. There was discussion about the need to train pediatricians on making referrals and using a better referral form. Arizona Health-e-Connection may be a good vehicle training pediatricians and other PCPs.

Future Meeting Dates

Sharon Flanagan-Hyde will close the Doodle links for 2017 ASD Advisory Committee meeting dates on Friday, Sept 30.

There will also be a Doodle link for a webinar on the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program. Dr. Mark Carroll and George Jacobson of AHCCCS will conduct the webinar in early October.

2017 Agenda Items

Sharon asked participants to contact her – sharon@flanagan-hyde.com – to suggest agenda items and/or offer to do presentations at upcoming meetings.