Office of Affordable Health Care

2023 Public Hearing Comment Solicitation – **Payers and Providers**

*Written comments are due by midnight on Friday October 6th, 2023.*

*Comments may be emailed to* [*meg.garratt-reed@maine.gov*](mailto:meg.garratt-reed@maine.gov)*, and should be attached as a word document or PDF. Please note that comments are not confidential and will be posted publicly.*

Submitter Information

Organization: Maine American Physical Therapy Association

Individual submitter’s name: Jen Corbeil, PT

Title: Physical therapist, Chair for Payment and Policy Committee

Gwen Simons, Esq,PT, OCS, FAAOMPT

Dan Dallatore, PT, DPT

Comments

1. Please identify and briefly describe the top (2-3) concerns of your organization in reducing health care cost growth and promoting affordability of health care for consumers.
   1. High out of pocket costs for patients when accessing physical, occupational and speech therapy services
   2. High administrative burden which adds to the cost of delivering services
   3. High student debt in hiring new graduates who are then asking for high salaries that companies can’t afford
2. Of the concerns described in question one, are there characteristics specific to Maine (geographically, economically, demographically) that contribute to the significance of the issue here?

Out of pocket costs and high student debt because the cost of living in Maine isn’t commiserate with pay

1. Please identify and briefly describe the top strategies your organization is pursuing to address these concerns, as well as metrics for success and any results observed. The Chapter continues to advocate at a local level as well as national level to address these concerns.
2. With as much specificity as possible, please identify and describe the top state health policy changes your organization would recommend to support your efforts to address those concerns.

Monitor or regulate insurance out of pocket expenses for physical, occupational and speech therapy services

1. Please share any additional comments. Thank you!