

MSSNY's Committee on Long Term Care Meeting
Thursday February 15, 2024
7:30 AM Via Zoom

Present

Elaine Healy, MD
Timothy Holahan, MD
Steven Kaner, MD
Thomas Lee, Asst. Commissioner
Thomas Madejski, MD
Daniel Nicoll, MD
Gregory Pinto, Commissioner

Nicholas Hospodar, Legislative Associate

Absent

Todd Demmy, MD
Fong Lu, MD
Helena Mizra, Alliance
Sandita Reddamagari, MD

Invited Guest

Al Cardillo, President, HCA-NYS

MSSNY Staff

Morris Auster, Senior VP & Chief
Legislative Council
Britney Blake, Admin Asst.
Zina Cary, VP, Legislative Affairs
Patricia Clancy, Senior VP/Managing
Director of Public Health

1. Welcome; review of committee list; recommendation for new appointments.

2. Adoption of October 26, 2023, minutes

The minutes were reviewed, a motion was made to accept them, and it was approved.

3. New York State 2024-25 budget discussion: Moe Auster, Esq., Sr. Vice President; Al Cardillo, President and CEO, Home Care Association of NY State (HCA)

Mr. Auster discussed a few budget issues related to long-term care. Some of these included proposed cuts in programs connected to physicians, the removal of the Committee of Physicians' Health, changes in malpractice insurance coverage costs for physicians, and scope of practice expansion for various healthcare providers. He also indicated the need for more healthcare workers to provide adequate patient care and suggested increasing the number of physicians that a physician assistant can supervise as a possible solution.

Mr. Cardillo discussed challenges in long-term care and potential cuts to funding. He highlighted the need for education on these services and opposes legislation that would eliminate managed long-term care plans. He also proposed adding funds to create stable funding sources for agencies in order to meet community needs effectively. Mr. Cardillo also expressed concern about the lack of recognition and support for the nursing home system, particularly in terms of Medicaid and proactive policies. He criticized the neglect of long-term care in policy initiatives

and argued for a greater focus on creating connectivity between essential providers. A discussion was followed by the committee who shared these concerns and agreed with the possible solutions put forward by Mr. Auster and Cardillo.

4. Assisted Living, Hospice issues - Dr. Slotkin

Dr. Slotkin indicated that there is a shortage of nursing home beds in Rochester and therefore a lot of patients end up in assisted living facilities. Due to regulations, PRN drugs cannot be given to patients in hospice care when certain medical personnel are off duty. This creates a barrier to adequate patient care. A discussion was had, and it was decided that Dr. Slotkin will talk to Mr. Auster about the possibility of collaborating with another hospital-oriented committee or specialty society to address healthcare culture changes affecting physicians.

5. Medical Director Registry update

Dr. Slotkin indicated that going forward new regulations surrounding the Medical Director Registry will be implemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). A new policy which will be implemented is that when a nursing home files for its updates, the name of the Medical Director must be included. All states will need to comply with their own system. Members of the committee should stay informed about the developments in the medical director registry and provide feedback if necessary. A discussion followed and Dr. Slotkin also suggested inviting the counselor for the Organized Medical Staff Section to create a dialogue and collaboration, to which the committee agreed.

6. Long-term Care Facilities and access to Paxlovid NYMDA and Covid Resource project (<https://www.nymda.org/nys-ltc-resources>)-

Dr. Healy provided updates on COVID outbreaks in nursing homes, highlighting unique challenges faced by these facilities including staffing shifts and notification procedures during outbreaks. She mentioned difficulties related to managing COVID post-pandemic, such as increased costs for treatments like Paxlovid that used to be covered by the government. Despite these challenges, she shared positive collaboration between government bodies and medical practitioners through projects like NIMDA (New York State Medical Directors Association) Covid Resource Project. Dr. Healy indicated that the NiMDa Covid resource project provides coaching services and resources for nursing homes and assisted living facilities during outbreaks. She discussed the coaching aspect of the project and showcased different sections on their website related to outbreak management and treatment protocols. A discussion followed by the committee about the importance of spreading awareness about this and MSSNY's staff agreed that going forward, this will be promoted through MSSNY's newsletters and social media.

7. Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, and it was approved.

Next Meeting: May 16, 2024.