



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

Ministry of Health

Health Insurance Department

Health Insurance Committee Meeting Minutes

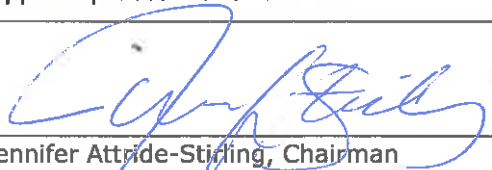
Meeting Date:	28 th February 2019	Time:	2:00pm – 3:30pm
Location:	Health Insurance Department Board Room	Note Taker:	Laquita Burrows
Attendees:	PS Jennifer Attride-Stirling (Chairman), Laquita Burrows, Dr. Louise White, Shivon Washington, Pandora Glasford, Holly Diatelevi, Dr. Cheryl Peek-Ball, Ricky Brathwaite, Roxanne Eve, Eleanor Furtado, Jaime Cook		
Apologies:	Dr. Michael Ashton, Stephen Gift		
Topics	Highlights		
1. Opening	1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02pm.		
2. Minutes	2.1 24 th January 2019 minutes were approved as circulated and signed. 2.2 Action Items were reviewed and updated per below.		
3. Financial / Governance	<p>3.1 Subsidy / HIP / FutureCare / MRF Review –At December 2018 subsidy claims incurred totalled \$83.5 million with claims approved for payment at \$78.1 million. The year may end \$5.6 million over budget due to incorrect billing for dialysis. Claims incurred for HIF total \$51.3 million. The HIF administrative expense ratio was 5% at December 2018 with the fund expense ratio at 90% which includes Government grants and the prescribed sum. The combined loss ratio is at 87%. HIF’s net impact after expenses is \$5.7 million at December 2018 and expected to end the year at \$6.7 million. Claims incurred for the MRF total \$18 million. The MRF currently has a balance of \$49,258, with the fund projected to end the year positively at approximately \$600,000.</p> <p>3.2 Funds’ Performance – Quarter ended December 2018 – The average cost of claims per plan is \$564.17 for FutureCare and \$557.53 for HIP, substantially more than the premium collected. The Financial Assistance group continues to be the super users, with the HIP ECP Financial Assistance group experiencing very high average claim costs primarily driven by prescriptions. The same trend of premium not covering the claims is shown in the loss ratios per plan including the loss ratios for supplemental benefits. Neither plan is profitable on its own with solvency dependent upon government grant and MRF transfers. The plans’ headcount has been steadily increasing, affected by an increase in Financial Assistance applicants and an uptick in groups and businesses signing on compared to prior years. The HIC discussed the feasibility of having supplemental add-ons for groups as we see the trend increasing. MRF premiums are currently being paid in a timely manner. The estimated MRF collection for fiscal 2018/19 is \$57.6 million based on a headcount just below 49,000 persons.</p> <p>3.3 Cash Flow Projections for HIF – The Fund had a closing balance of \$8.1 million at the end of December 2018. At fiscal year-end there is an anticipated surplus of \$5.4 million; however BHB billing backlog and corrections will impact this balance.</p>		
4. Plan Design	4.1 None		
5. Appeals / Policy	5.1 Provider / Policyholder appeals – The HIC reviewed a request for an exception to the 60% overseas coverage benefit for a HIP policyholder who required emergency care while overseas. A rented Life Vest was required for life sustaining care until surgery for a		

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Decisions	<p>pacemaker/defibrillator can be safely performed. Provision of the Life Vest was required for discharge; otherwise policyholder would need to stay in hospital until surgery which would be a significant cost to the plan in comparison to the cost of the life vest. HID's Nursing and Finance Teams recommended covering the \$8,699 medical device at 100%, given the medical benefits to the patient and the financial benefit to the Fund, as it achieves significant savings by avoiding prolonged hospitalization, estimated at \$86,000. The HIC agreed and coverage was approved unanimously under supplemental benefits. The HIC discussed the development of a written appeals policy and procedure. It was agreed an appeals policy should be established. The HID Director will liaise with the Chair and Director of Financial Assistance to use their existing templates to develop the policy.</p> <p>5.2 Policy Decisions – SPR Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health Council advised two levels of review have been completed. The Ministry has sent recommendations to Cabinet. Decisions are expected in 7-10 days. The HIC will be informed of final outcomes. 		
6. Any Other Business	<p>6.1 Any Other Business - None</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm. Next HIC meeting scheduled for March 28th, 2019 at 2:00pm.</p>		
Action Items		Person Responsible	Target Date
1. Create appeals procedure for the HIC		HID Director	ASAP

Signed: 
 Jennifer Attride-Stirling, Chairman

28th March 2019
 Date

Signed: 
 Laquita Burrows, HID Director

28 MARCH 2019
 Date