

July 1, 2010

To:

Mr. Lou Felice, Chair of Health Care Reform Solvency Impact Subgroup
Mr. Steven Ostlund, Chair of Accident & Health Working Group

National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC)
2301 McGee Street, Suite 800
Kansas City, Missouri 64108-2662

Re: Community health and recommendations on the definition of medical loss ratio (MLR)

The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNM-HSC) is the largest academic health complex in the state, and is recognized as an innovator in rural medicine, community-based medical education, and in service to rural and marginalized populations. Within the UNM-HSC, the Vice President's Office for Community Health (VPOCH) serves as an umbrella and central point of contact and coordination for programs that engage New Mexico communities in improving health and building health professions pipeline. The VPOCH is working with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico (BCBSNM) to achieve these goals.

An integral component of our community health and rural outreach programs is the partnership with the BCBSNM Care Van. Partnering with the BCBSNM Care Van, pre professional students and faculty from UNM-HSC and other state institutions of higher education are able to provide access to multiple healthcare services (e.g. immunizations, health screenings and referrals, dental hygiene, behavioral and social services, and health education) for individuals around the state. Through this partnership we are addressing the health needs of individuals, families, and communities around the state and improving community health outcomes.

We are writing to support the inclusion of community outreach and health organization donation monies in the classification of medical services because we believe that this is necessary to support and improve the overall health of our communities. Please consider this as the recommendations on the definition of medical loss ratio (MLR) are made.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Arthur Kaufman, MD and Amy Anixter Scott, MD, MPA
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