

**OFFICE OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE  
COMMISSIONER**  
**Administrative Simplification Task Force**

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**September 13, 2022**



OFFICE OF THE  
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND



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# Administrative Simplification Task Force

- RI Gen. Laws § 42-14.5-3. and OHIC regulation 230-RICR-20-30-4.11
- The Administrative Simplification Task Force is established to make recommendations to the Commissioner for streamlining health care administration to be more cost-effective, and less time-consuming for hospitals, providers, consumers, and insurers, and to carry out the purposes of R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-14.5-3(h).

# Administrative Simplification Task Force

- Meets during September through November
- Makes recommendations to the Commissioner no later than December 31, 2022
- Prior topics of the Task Force
  - External Appeal requirements
  - Insurers processes for considering and incorporating local providers and members' input into the development or evaluation of their clinical criteria
  - Retroactive terminations

## Topic for Fall 2022

- Prior authorization
  - (i.e., prior approval or preauthorization)
- Defined as:
  - Prospective assessment of a health care service prior to the service being rendered.

# Overview of OHIC's Regulatory Role

- Enforces state laws governing coverage and access;
- Investigates complaints made by consumers and providers;
- Certifies benefit determination review agents;
- Collects quarterly data on medical necessity reviews.

# Data Overview

- OHIC currently receives quarterly reports from all certified review agents
  - Information includes the following broad categories:
    - Medical/Surgical, Mental Health and Substance Use
      - Hospital Inpatient
      - Emergency
      - Other Hospital Outpatient Services
      - Lab, Diagnostic Testing, Imaging
      - Pharmaceutical
      - Durable Medical Equipment
      - Physician Services
      - Other Professional Services
      - Dental
      - Other

# Data Overview – Medical/Surgical

## Prospective: medical necessity denials

Dental	2182
Durable Medical Equipment	14
Emergency	11
Hospital Inpatient	76
Lab, Diagnostic testing, Imaging	1930
Other	8
Other Hospital Outpatient Services	80
Other Professional Services	29
Pharmaceutical	1870
Physician Services	71
Total	4177

## Prospective: number of requests

Dental	38065
Durable Medical Equipment	98
Emergency	1
Hospital Inpatient	422
Lab, Diagnostic testing, Imaging	16646
Other	94
Other Hospital Outpatient Services	904
Other Professional Services	945
Pharmaceutical	6548
Physician Services	932
Total	64655

## Prospective: accepted, modified or otherwise approved

Dental	35883
Durable Medical Equipment	84
Emergency	1
Hospital Inpatient	346
Lab, Diagnostic testing, Imaging	14692
Other	86
Other Hospital Outpatient Services	825
Other Professional Services	916
Pharmaceutical	4621
Physician Services	812
Total	58265

**OHIC will bring analyses of these reports to future meetings, as necessary.**



# Data Overview – Mental Health

## Prospective: medical necessity denials

Diagnostic Testing	22
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	0
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	4
Other Professional Services	16
Partial Hospitalization	0
Pharmaceutical	242
Physician Services	0
Residential Treatment	0
Total	284

## Prospective: number of requests

Diagnostic Testing	23
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	219
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	30
Other Professional Services	367
Partial Hospitalization	159
Pharmaceutical	1608
Physician Services	1
Residential Treatment	2
Total	2408

## Prospective: accepted, modified or otherwise approved

Diagnostic Testing	0
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	219
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	26
Other Professional Services	351
Partial Hospitalization	159
Pharmaceutical	1295
Physician Services	1
Residential Treatment	2
Total	2053

# Data Overview – Substance Use Disorder

## Prospective: medical necessity denials

Diagnostic Testing	0
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	1
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	0
Other Professional Services	3
Partial Hospitalization	0
Pharmaceutical	27
Physician Services	0
Residential Treatment	0
Total	25

## Prospective: accepted, modified or otherwise approved

Diagnostic Testing	0
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	77
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	62
Other Professional Services	22
Partial Hospitalization	52
Pharmaceutical	189
Physician Services	0
Residential Treatment	80
Total	482

## Prospective: number of requests

Diagnostic Testing	0
Emergency	0
Hospital Inpatient	78
Intensive Outpatient Treatment	62
Other Professional Services	25
Partial Hospitalization	52
Pharmaceutical	221
Physician Services	0
Residential Treatment	80
Total	518



## Discussion

- What information from OHIC, insurers, and providers would be helpful to support the Task Force's work this fall?
- Are members of the Task Force prepared to present proposals for consideration of the group that address the issues raised during the meetings?
- What ideas do members of the Task Force have for defining the issues presented by prior authorization?
- Do members of the Task Force think a consensus problem statement could be composed?

## Future Meeting Dates

- September 27, 2022 – 8:00am – 9:30am (DLT 73-I)
- October 4, 2022 – 8:00am – 9:30am (DLT 73-I)
- October 18, 2022 – 8:00am – 9:30am (DLT 73-I)
- November 9, 2022 – 8:00am – 9:30am (DLT 73-I)

PUBLIC COMMENT