



Meeting Summary
March 21, 2003

Members present: Tamara Arthur, D.O., Marsha Sorum, Frank Prideaux, D.C., Rebecca Brown, Timothy Keenen, M.D., Gary Richetelli, M.D.

WCD MAC staff: Debra Buchanan and Barbara Smith

Others present: none

Absent: Joseph Eusterman, M.D., Charles Carter, M.D., Walter LaChapelle, Franklin Wong, M.D., Tom Williams, Nancy Bieber

- A. **Representation on the Pharmacy Fee Advisory Committee.** Rebecca Brown will be this committee's representative on the Pharmacy Fee Advisory Committee (PFAC). She will bring issues to the MAC for discussion and take consensus and/or individual opinions back to the PFAC.
- B. **Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (ACT) review.** The committee discussed known studies on ACT as well as Washington state's policy which allows limited use of the procedure under specific circumstances. The WA criteria and bulletin seem well thought out. It was noted that Aetna also allows use of the procedure under very limited circumstances. The procedure is used by some physicians outside the limitations described by these organizations. Oregon has precedents (DMSO and IDET) of allowing very limited use of procedures under specific circumstances.

There was a consensus that this is not an experimental procedure for an otherwise stable knee. ACT followup has been done for two years, and there is peer review of ACT use. The criteria are more objective than IDET. WCD would not attempt to control who performs the procedure. However, if a protocol is developed, it could clarify when the procedure is indicated.

The committee agreed a good starting point would be to draft a protocol for general use. MAC could give a draft protocol to an orthopedist who uses the procedure

frequently, and ask for comments. If the committee is going to provide some input to WCD in order to provide some regulatory control, it should be something that can be put into a rule.

Action: For the next meeting, Dr. Arthur volunteered to write a summary of the material the committee has found about ACT as well as any new information she can find. She will also check FDA standards to learn why it went from primary to secondary procedure. She will also draft a protocol for review. Dr. Keenen will look for statements about this procedure from orthopedic groups.

Action: Ms. Buchanan will circulate the Washington L&I bulletin electronically, contact L&I for results information, and ask L&I for documents supporting their bulletin and any numbers they have available.

* MAC will then review and either respond at the next meeting or via email.

- C. **Review of pending legislation.** A list of pending legislation was discussed. A memo was drafted for the Management Labor Advisory Committee (which meets this afternoon) voicing opposition to HB 2828. The committee asked MLAC to postpone its decisions on SB 414, SB 812, HB 3591, and HB 3469 until the MAC provides opinions on these bills after its next meeting on April 25th.

Action: Ms. Buchanan will take the memo from the MAC to the MLAC meeting scheduled for this afternoon and let MAC know of any response. She will also email the bills to the committee for review.

Action: MAC will review those bills of interest and respond to her via email any position they would like to take on a bill, and if they want a memo drafted.

Action: Regarding HB 3469, Ms. Buchanan will also get info from the Board for Naturopathic medicine to see what qualifications are required, and will email the info to the committee.

Action: MAC will review and respond to Ms. Buchanan if they want to take a position on the bill.

- D. **Update on upcoming Pharmacy Fee Schedule.** An advisory committee being formed. Four meetings are planned approximately four weeks apart. A charter has been created. The process will be completed by October, and proposed rules will be drafted by the end of the year.

Action: Ms. Buchanan will email the committee members a copy of the charter for the pharmacy fee schedule.

- E. **Next MAC meeting.** The next meeting of the MAC will be in Portland on April 25.