**CLINICIANS UNITED NEW HAMPSHIRE**

MINUTES

March 4, 2024

PRESENT: Allison Doyle, Steven Durost, Matt Fowler, Julie Golkowski, Shawn Hassell, John Iudice, Weston Martin, Heidi Page, Lynn Stanley, Scot Wilson, Andy Capen

Question: how long to keep EOB’s?

Differing opinions. Some keep, but others don’t. Shawn keeps the printed ones for 7 years out of an abundance of caution.

What do we think about hosting a meeting of the associations?

Weston: Yes, good idea. What would we look to accomplish?

Julie: Yes, leaders or representatives from those organizations. ID 3-5 top issues that could impact the widest group of people.

Shawn: I like the concept, but agenda and parameters of what we discuss would be very important (e.g., anything that gets anywhere close to antitrust). Also: make sure provides don’t appear as too self-serving.

Scot: Do we have access to an attorney who can speak to us about antitrust?

Lynn: We had someone come talk with us pre-COVID. We could have that person come speak with us again.

Lynn: Are people getting paid?

* Who should people go to?
* Department of Labor
* Behavioral Health Advisory Committee – why go to them?
* BHAC: Meeting March 15, 2024 at 12:00pm
	+ “Please join NHPA BHAC for an open discussion on the business of practice both for solo or group practices and for integrated care.”

Heidi: Vision for the event: Let’s get together and find out what everyone is working on

Lynn shared in chat:

Sherman Antitrust Act: Under the Sherman Act, agreements among competitors to fix prices or wages, rig bids, or allocate customers, workers, or markets, are criminal violations. Other agreements such as exclusive contracts that reduce competition may also violate the Sherman Antitrust Act and are subject to civil enforcement. Dec 20, 2023

More discussion about what qualifies as an antitrust violation:
Lynn shared: if the leaders of the groups get together and collectively address the insurance companies, that would clearly be a violation. Lynn will check with NASW Legal Dept for more.

Shawn: added to this, saying that anything that looks like collective bargaining efforts; can’t stop 2 providers from talking about rates with each other, but when it’s large scale, it’s a problem

Scot: could we also just ask insurance companies for transparency, information about what their rates are?

Allison: not ultimatums, but could we plead our case?

Shawn: 6 years ago – committee: led to investigation by Insurance Dept.

Julie: What do you all think are the top 3 issues?

Lynn: clawbacks, lateness, rate

Andy: suggested convening a group to talk about what a gathering could look like, that we bring back a proposed plan to this group next month. (Weston, Scot, John, Heidi, and Shawn are willing to participate)

Shawn: NHPA and NHAMFT did surveys, too

Matt chaired NHAMFT the past couple of years. Matt has the data and has permission from NHAMFT to share it.

Heidi: any issues to add to Lynn’s suggestions?

Shawn: credentialing

Weston: Top problems: clawbacks, reimbursement rates in general, irregularity in payment. Credentialing! Lack of timely fixing of identified problems.

John: authorizations

Allison: telehealth compact. AMFT said they aren’t going to look at this. Intersects with each license and whether or not they have a compact.