

Expert panel on appropriate use of imaging services

ISSUE: This panel will discuss efforts in the private sector to encourage more appropriate use of imaging services, such as the development of appropriateness criteria and the use of preauthorization programs by plans. We will hear from the following experts:

Carey Vinson, M.D., M.P.M., Vice President, Quality and Medical Performance Management, Highmark, Inc. (a Blue Cross Blue Shield plan); Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Temple University School of Medicine; Senior Scholar, Department of Health Policy, Thomas Jefferson Medical College

Pamela S. Douglas, M.D., Ursula Geller Professor for Research in Cardiovascular Diseases at Duke University Medical Center

Patrick Courneya, M.D., C.H.I.E., Medical Director for Delivery Systems, HealthPartners Health Plan; Assistant Medical Director, HealthPartners Medical Group; Clinical Practice, HealthPartners Medical Group

The presenters' biographies are included as background information.

KEY POINTS: Key discussion points will include:

- Private plans' experience with preauthorization and prior notification programs for expensive imaging services, and
- Efforts by physician organizations to improve the quality and ensure the appropriateness of imaging services, such as the development of clinical guidelines.

ACTION: After the panelists make brief presentations, Commissioners will have the opportunity to ask the panelists questions and discuss issues that arise.

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