

# Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Task Force

## Meeting Summary

November 8, 2011

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Rothman welcomed members of the Task Force and thanked them for devoting their time to serve on the task force. Members introduced themselves to the group.

### II. Charge, Process, and Structure

Commissioner Rothman walked through the charge of the group: to advise the Commissioner on the design and development of a Minnesota Health Insurance Exchange. The Task Force will provide guidance and recommendations on a number of policy, technical, and operational issues including but not limited to:

- Size of the small group market
- Merger of the individual and small group markets
- Provisions to avoid adverse selection
- Risk adjustment
- Cost, quality, and satisfaction rating for health insurers and health benefit plans
- Navigator/broker provisions
- Technical infrastructure
- Exchange operations
- Long-term governance
- Ongoing funding mechanisms

Ms. Todd-Malmlov walked through a list of work groups that will provide technical assistance on options directly to the Commissioner of Commerce and indirectly to the Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Task Force. Ms. Todd-Malmlov explained that one Exchange staff member and one stakeholder will co-lead each technical work group. Timelines and deliverables are expected to match the schedule determined by the Department of Commerce and the Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Task Force. All minutes and deliverables will be posted online. The list of work groups include:

- Adverse Selection and Encouraging Market Competition and Value
- Navigators and Agents/Brokers
- Governance
- Financing
- Tribal Consultation
- IT and Operations
- Individual Eligibility
- Small Employers and Employees
- Measurement and Reporting
- Outreach, Communications and Marketing

The Department is currently requesting interested parties to serve on these work groups. The Adverse Selection and Encouraging Market Competition and Value, Navigators and Agents/Brokers, Governance, and Financing work groups will start within the next few weeks while the remaining groups will start in December or early 2012.

The task force also discussed reserving time at each meeting for public comment. It was decided that time would be reserved for public comment at the end of every task force meeting.

### III. Exchange Overview

Ms. Todd-Malmlov gave an overview presentation that walked through a number of issues related to Health Insurance Exchanges including existing market challenges, Exchange opportunities, Exchange components, key Exchange issues, existing Exchange structures, state and federal status updates and timeline information.

### IV. Discussion of Key Exchange Issues

Task Force members raised and discussed a variety of issues related to Exchanges that they felt were important to consider over the next few months. These issues included:

- Consumer engagement not only in health plan choice, but also in health improvement
- Health disparities
- Various adverse selection issues (impact of higher risk and lower income populations on premiums, adverse selection between the Exchange and outside market, and risk selection issues within the Exchange)
- Interaction with tribal governments
- Balancing the need for simplification but not oversimplification
- The future of MinnesotaCare and understanding the conditions and needs of this population
- The potential for administrative simplification with Medicaid Assistance and counties
- Essential benefits, the relationship to Minnesota's mandated benefits, and the impact on the state budget.

Members also asked about the content of the next meeting. A member asked if the economic and actuarial modeling to be presented at the next meeting included an assessment of disparities in the state – it was mentioned that this would not be included in the presentation in the next meeting but that staff would follow-up with the modelers regarding whether this type of assessment is possible from the model. A member asked about the data that was used for the actuarial and economic modeling. Ms. Todd-Malmlov responded that the data came from a variety of sources including claims, benefit, and enrollment data from health plans, MCHA and Medicaid. In addition, Minnesota's Health Access Survey was also used and this data source incorporates information on the uninsured. A member also requested that state demographic information, specifically how it relates to Federal Poverty Levels, be provided to the task force. Staff agreed and mentioned that this information would be part of the presentation at the next meeting.

V. Discussion of Future Meeting Schedule, Agenda, Locations and Deliverables

Commissioner Rothman presented a draft future meeting schedule and asked the members for their thoughts on the topic areas, meeting locations, and deliverables. A member requested that discussion about the size of the small group market and the possibility of merging the small group and individual markets be added as an upcoming agenda item. A member also expressed interest in hearing more about Minnesota's high risk pool (MCHA). Members asked how decisions would be made and suggested that a timeline be developed for when recommendations and/or deliverables on specific topics are needed from the task force. Commissioner Rothman stated that a start to this timeline would be available at the next meeting.

Task force members also discussed future meeting locations and the possibility of holding some of the upcoming meetings in Greater Minnesota. Staff will work on potential locations for upcoming meetings in December.

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, November 17, 1pm – 5pm

Location: St. Paul River Center, Meeting Rooms 13-14

Agenda:

- Presentation of Economic and Actuarial Modeling Results from Jon Gruber of MIT and Bela Gorman of Gorman Actuarial
- Discussion of recommendation/deliverable timeline