

**Independence Blue Cross Physician Advisory Committee  
Meeting minutes for Wednesday, January 21, 2009  
G. Fred DiBona Building, 1901 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA**

**Attendees:** I. Steven Udvarhelyi, M.D., Patrick J. Brennan, M.D., Janis G. Chester, M.D., Anthony V. Coletta, M.D., Charles Cutler, M.D., M. Arif Hashmi, M.D., John J. Kelly, M.D., Sanand R. Menon, M.D., Scott R. Schaffer, M.D., C. Richard Schott, M.D., and Dennis H. Tafflin, D.O.

**Excused:** Anthony J. DiMarino Jr., M.D.

**IBC supporting associates present:** Leon G. DeMasi, M.D., Tressa Harley, Dale M. Mandel, M.D., Gerald W. Peden, M.D.

### **I. Old business**

***Drafting of policy distribution*** — Dr. Peden, Senior Medical Director in the Claim Payment Policy division, outlined the process by which the Physician Advisory Committee will review and comment on draft medical and claim payment policies. This will allow the Committee the opportunity to offer its opinion and solicit feedback from the physician community.

***Reporting de-selection of providers to the National Practitioner Databank*** — A copy of the databank policy was distributed to the Committee. This included the section addressing health plan reporting requirements.

### **II. New business**

Dr. Peden delivered a presentation on IBC's claim payment policy development and review procedures. The Committee expressed interest in sharing this information with its peers for technical and specialty-specific input.

Dr. Udvarhelyi gave a presentation on medical utilization comparing southeast Pennsylvania to other metropolitan statistical areas in the United States. The discussion then centered on what physicians can do collectively to address cost-efficiency and high utilization rates while still providing quality and affordable care.

***Never events*** – Dr. Peden reviewed the IBC Never Events Policy. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee agreed to submit feedback on the policy.

### **III. Action items/adjournment**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2009.