****

***2021 ANNUAL REPORT***

***Board/Committee/SIG Position: Practice and Payment Specialist***

***Name: Andrea Lausch, PT, DPT***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **APTA INDIANA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE FOR TRACKING SHEET** | |
| **GOAL & STRATEGY #** | **UPDATE** |
| Track Payment Practices From the Use of Telehealth in 2020 and 2021 | Progress: To date these insurers provide coverage: Medicaid, UHC if file on 1500 form, Aetna, Cigna if file on 1500 form. Anthem communicated via email it will finalize telehealth policy for rehab this fall. Currently each honors parity of pay. |
| Generate Language for Legislation That Will Promote Parity of Pay | Not Met |
| Advocate for Payer Policies That Increase Direct Access to Physical Therapy Services | Identified payer policies that do not permit DA |
| Provide Member Resources to Facilitate the Use of Direct Access via a “Direct Access Toolkit” | Progress: Provided PR committee payer information and research regarding direct access. |
| Payment Webinars to Update Members on Hot Topics | Met for 2021: see below |

**INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT RELATED TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN HERE**

**Practice and Payment Specialist Principal Functions Description**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Objectives** | **Actions** |
| **Serve as a resource to the APTA Indiana membership on practice and payment issues** | * Addressed 125 practice and payment questions/issues from membership in a timely manner over past year. * Sent out regular newsletter with payer and practice updates. * Archived newsletters on Practice and Payment webpage. * Periodically post on social media relevant practice and payment news and advocacy needs. * Updated Practice and Payment webpage. * Hosted 3 webinars: 1/27/21 on 2021 MPFS changes and optimizing reimbursement, 6/23/21 on direct to employer contracting/employer needs, 3/3 WPS Defending the Documentation. * Updated membership on AIM advocacy efforts and developed a new survey. * Participated at IN legislative committee meeting informing committee of issues related to UR/UM companies and other state legislative actions. |
| **Establishes working relationships with payer contacts** | * Met with Anthem/AIM in June and had regular contact with this payer. * Attended Anthem Site of Service webinar July 27. * Attended every other month meetings with APTA and other chapter chairs to address concerns with AIM/Anthem. * Surveyed members in Feb/March regarding AIM issues and shared results with members, IN Medicaid and Anthem Medicaid March/April 2021. * Contacted IN Medicaid regularly to address member questions and communicate ongoing issues with Anthem IN. * Attended IHCP Road Show in spring 2021 and Fall 2021 IHCP workshop. * Continued to establish and strengthen connections with the provider relations employees for Medicaid, Anthem Medicaid, Anthem commercial, AIM and WPS. * Established relationship with Employer Forum of Indiana with goal of having voice to employers about value of PT. Attended member meetings. * Attended IBJ Power Breakfast Series for Health Care/Benefits 9/2021. * Established relationship with local benefit advisor. * Introduced APTA leaders to Vital Incite President, Mary Delaney, to assist with the webinar that was delivered to Vital Incite employers and benefit advisors 8/24/21 on value of early PT on reducing MSK spend. |
| **Communicates with APTA Indiana Board of Directors** | * Provided written reports before all APTA IN Board meetings. * Participated in the strategic planning meetings over the end of 2020 and first half of 2021. * Attended all APTA IN Board meetings. |
| **Maintains a physical therapy payment database** | * Maintains a list of primary payer contacts interacted with to date. * Maintains a list of member payer and practice issues. * Has asked for member input via a form on Practice and Payment Page for members to provide additional payer contacts and to email payment issues to [andrealausch@inapta.org](mailto:andrealausch@inapta.org). |
| **Communicates and collaborates with the APTA Indiana Practice and Payment (PP) Committee and APTA** | * Meeting virtually every 3 months with PP committee members, and providing input to/from PP committee as needed between communications. * Provided input to APTA/APTA IN PP Committee regarding payment issues in state. * Participated in AIM/Chapter strategy meeting with APTA. * Participated in APTA Value Based Workgroup monthly since July. * Participated in APTA Payment Chair meetings. * Attended APTA OHSIG meetings since June. |
| **Represents APTA Indiana in advocacy efforts directed at Third Party payers.** | * Take Action Campaign to help fight the CMS cuts proposed for 2022. Communicated to members/nonmembers via email, social media, and university contacts. * Collecting input from members in regards to payment issues affecting their practice. * Working with APTA on advocacy efforts to improve PA and peer to peer issues with AIM. * Worked with APTA, IHA, IOTA, IRHA, and ISHA on joint letter to Anthem IN regarding Site of Service Policy. Attended meetings toward advocacy efforts to retract Anthem Site of Care Policy. Met with respective associations on multiple occasions between May and July. * Sent a letter to Anthem IN/AIM requesting answers to questions related to the site of service policy and requested retraction of the policy. |