

HealthPartners

QUALITY ASSURANCE EXAMINATION - 2024

HealthPartners Quality Assurance Examination Report

For the Period: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2023

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) conducted a Quality Assurance Examination of HealthPartners to determine whether it is operating in accordance with Minnesota Law. Our mission is to protect, maintain and improve the health of all Minnesotans. MDH has found that HealthPartners is compliant with Minnesota and Federal law, except in the areas outlined in the “Deficiencies” and “Mandatory Improvements” sections of this report. “Deficiencies” are violations of law. “Mandatory Improvements” are required corrections that must be made to non-compliant policies, documents, or procedures where evidence of actual compliance is found or where the file sample did not include any instances of the specific issue of concern. The “Recommendations” listed are areas where, although compliant with law, MDH identified improvement opportunities.

To address recommendations, HealthPartners should:

None Identified

To address mandatory improvements, HealthPartners and its delegates must:

None Identified

To address deficiencies, HealthPartners and its delegates must:

None Identified

This report including these deficiencies, mandatory improvements and recommendations is approved and adopted by the Minnesota Commissioner of Health pursuant to authority in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62D.

Diane Rydrych

Diane Rydrych, Director
Health Policy Division

12/16/2024

Date

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I. Introduction

1. History:

HealthPartners, an integrated health care organization providing health care services and health plan financing and administration, was founded in 1957 as a cooperative.

In 1992, Group Health merged with MedCenters Health Plan. Together, they formed HealthPartners. Since then, HealthPartners combined with Park Nicollet Health System, Regions Hospital, Lakeview Health, Hudson Hospital & Clinic, Amery Hospital, Hutchinson Health, and Olivia Hospital & Clinic. In the 2010s, HealthPartners expanded to new states and are found in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Today, HealthPartners serves more than 1.8 million medical and dental health plan members nationwide. HealthPartners includes a multi-specialty group practice of more than 1,800 physicians that serve more than 1.2 million patients.

2. Membership: HealthPartners self-reported Minnesota enrollment as of December 31, 2023, consisted of the following:

Self-Reported Enrollment

Product	Enrollment
<i>Fully Insured Commercial</i>	
Large Group	10,657
Small Employer Group	73,918
Individual	46,147
<i>Minnesota Health Care Programs – Managed Care (MHCP-MC)</i>	
Families & Children	169,546
MinnesotaCare	22,727
Minnesota Senior Care (MSC+)	3,771
Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO)	5,972
Special Needs Basic Care	7,444
<i>Total</i>	340,182

3. Onsite Examination Dates: March 4 - 8, 2024

4. Examination Period: January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2023

File Review Period: January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023

Opening Date: December 20, 2023

5. National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA): HealthPlan is accredited by NCQA for its Commercial HMO/POS/PPO Combined, Marketplace PPO and Medicaid HMO products based on 2023 standards. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) evaluated and used results of the NCQA review in one of three ways:
 - a. If NCQA standards do not exist or are not as stringent as Minnesota law, the accreditation results were not used in the MDH examination process [No NCQA checkbox].
 - b. If the NCQA standard was the same or more stringent than Minnesota law and the health plan was accredited with 100% of the possible points, the NCQA results were accepted as meeting Minnesota requirements [NCQA ☒, unless evidence existed indicating further investigation was warranted [NCQA ☐].
 - c. If the NCQA standard was the same or more stringent than Minnesota law, but the plan was accredited with less than 100% of the possible points or MDH identified an opportunity for improvement, MDH conducted its own examination.
6. Sampling Methodology: Due to the small sample sizes and the methodology used for sample selection for the quality assurance examination, the results cannot be extrapolated as an overall deficiency rate for the health plan.
7. Performance Standard: For each instance of non-compliance with applicable law or rule identified during the quality assurance examination, that covers a three-year audit period, the health plan is cited with a deficiency. A deficiency will not be based solely on one outlier file if MDH has sufficient evidence that a plan's overall operation is compliant with an applicable law. Sufficient evidence may be obtained through: 1) file review; 2) policies and procedures; and 3) interviews.

II. Quality Program Administration

Program

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1110

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met	NCQA
Subp. 1.	Written Quality Assurance Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subp. 2.	Documentation of Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 3.	Appointed Entity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 4.	Physician Participation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 5.	Staff Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 6.	Delegated Activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 7.	Information System	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 8.	Program Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 9.	Complaints	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subp. 10.	Utilization Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subp. 11.	Provider Selection and Credentialing Also refer to 62Q.097	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 12.	Qualifications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subp. 13.	Medical Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	

Delegated Activities

Subp. 6. Minnesota Rules, part 4685.1110, subpart 6, states the HMO must develop and implement review and reporting requirements to assure that the delegated entity performs all delegated activities. The standards and processes established by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) for delegation are considered the community standard and, as such, were used for the purposes of this examination. The following delegated entities and functions were reviewed.

Delegated Entities and Functions

Entity	UM	QOC	Complaints/ Grievances	Appeals	Cred	Claims	Disease Mgmt	Network	Care Coord
MedImpact HealthCare Systems, Inc.						X		X	
Independent Lifestyles, INC									X

Entity	UM	QOC	Complaints/ Grievances	Appeals	Cred	Claims	Disease Mgmt	Network	Care Coord
OncoHealth	X								
Fulcrum Health					X				
Lifestance Health					X				
Medical Review Institute of America (MRIOA)	X								

Activities

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1115

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subp. 1.	Ongoing Quality Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 2.	Scope	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Quality Evaluation Steps

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1120

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subp. 1.	Problem Identification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 2.	Problem Selection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 3.	Corrective Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 4.	Evaluation of Corrective Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Focused Study Steps

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1125

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subp. 1.	Focused Studies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 2.	Topic Identification and Selections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 3.	Study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 4.	Corrective Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 5.	Other Studies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Filed Written Plan and Work Plan

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1130

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subp. 1.	Written Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 2.	Work Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 3.	Amendments to Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Provider Selection and Credentialing

Subp. 11. Minnesota Rules, part 4685.1110, subpart 11, states the plan must have policies and procedures for provider selection, credentialing and recredentialing that, at a minimum, are consistent with community standards. MDH recognizes the community standard to be NCQA. HealthPartners scored 100% on all 2023 NCQA Credentialing/recredentialing standards.

MDH reviewed a total of 24 credentialing files as indicated in the table below.

Credentialing File Review

File Source	# Reviewed
Initial -	
<i>HP Physicians</i>	4
<i>HP Allied</i>	4
<i>Fulcrum</i>	8
<i>LifeStance</i>	8
Total	24

Requirements For Timely Provider Credentialing

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.097

Subdivisions	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Definitions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Time limit for credentialing determination		
	(1) If application is clean and if clinic/facility requests, notify of date by which determination on app.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Subdivisions	Subject	Met	Not Met
	(2) If app determined not to be clean, inform provider of deficiencies/missing information within three business days	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
	(3) Make determination on clean app within 45 days after receiving clean app	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
	(4) Health plan allowed 30 additional days to investigate any quality or safety concerns.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Enrollee Advisory Body

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62D.06, Subdivision 2

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 2	Enrollee Input. Governing body shall establish a mechanism to afford the enrollees an opportunity to express their opinions in matters of policy and operation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

III. Quality of Care

Quality of Care File Review

MDH reviewed a total of 8 quality of care grievance and complaint system files.

Quality of Care File Review

File Source	# Reviewed
<i>Quality of Care</i>	
<i>MHCP Grievances</i>	7
<i>Commercial Complaints</i>	1
Total	8

Quality of Care Complaints

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62D.115

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Definition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Quality of Care Investigations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

IV. Complaint Systems

Complaint System File Review

MDH examined HealthPartners's fully insured commercial complaint system for compliance with complaint resolution requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 62Q. MDH reviewed a total of 16 complaint system files.

Complaint System File Review

File Source	# Reviewed
Complaint Files	
<i>HealthPartners Written</i>	0
<i>HealthPartners Oral</i>	8
Non-Clinical Appeals	8
Total	16

Complaint Resolution

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.69.

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Procedures for Filing a Complaint	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Notification of Complaint Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Appeal of the Complaint Decision

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.70

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Procedures for Filing an Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Notification of Appeal Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Notice to Enrollees

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.71

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
62Q.71.	Notice to Enrollees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Record Keeping; Reporting

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.72

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Record Keeping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

External Review of Adverse Determinations

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.73

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 3.	Right to External Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

V. Grievance Systems

Grievance System File Review

MDH examined HealthPartners's Minnesota Health Care Programs Managed Care Programs – Managed Care (MHCP-MC) grievance system for compliance with the federal law (42 CFR 438, subpart F) and the DHS 2023 Contract, Article 8.

MDH conducted a review of a total of 30 grievance system files.

Grievance System File Review

File Source	# Reviewed
Grievances	
<i>HealthPartners Written</i>	4
<i>HealthPartners Oral</i>	4
DTRs	8
Clinical and Non-Clinical Appeals	
<i>HealthPartners Written</i>	4
<i>HealthPartners Oral</i>	4
State Fair Hearing	6
Total	30

General Requirements

DHS Contract, Section 8.1

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.1.	§438.402	General Requirements		
Sec. 8.1.1.		Components of Grievance System	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Internal Grievance Process Requirements

DHS Contract, Section 8.2

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.2.	§438.408	Internal Grievance Process Requirements		
Section 8.2.1.	§438.402 (c)	Filing Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.2.2.	§438.408 (b)(1), (d)(1)	Timeframe for Resolution of Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Section 8.2.3.	§438.408 (c)	Timeframe for Extension of Resolution of Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Section 8.2.4.	§438.406	Handling of Grievances		
8.2.4.1	§438.406 (b)(1)	Written Acknowledgement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.4.2	§438.416	Log of Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.4.3	§438.402 (c)(3)	Oral or Written Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.4.4	§438.406 (a)	Reasonable Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.4.5	§438.406 (b)(2)(i)	Individual Making Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.4.6	§438.406 (b)(2)(ii)	Appropriate Clinical Expertise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Section 8.2.5.	§438.408 (d)(1)	Notice of Disposition of a Grievance		
8.2.5.1	§438.404 (b) §438.406 (a)	Oral Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.2.5.2	§438.404 (a), (b)	Written Grievances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

DTR Notice of Action to Enrollees

DHS Contract, Section 8.3

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.3.	§438.10 §438.404	DTR Notice of Action to Enrollees		
Section 8.3.1.	§438.10(c), (d) §438.402(c) §438.404(b)	General Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Section 8.3.2	§438.402 (c), §438.404 (b)	Content of DTR Notice of Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.2.1	§438.404	Notice to Provider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Section 8.3.3.	§438.404 (c)	Timing of DTR Notice MCO must make a good faith effort to promptly notify the STATE and the Ombudsman for Managed Care if the MCO becomes aware that DTRs are not being issued timely.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.1	§431.211	Previously Authorized Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.2	§438.404 (c)(2)	Denials of Payment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.3	§438.210 (c)(d)	Standard Authorizations		
(1)		As expeditiously as the enrollee's health condition requires	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
(2)		To the attending health care professional and hospital by telephone or fax within one working day after making the determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
(3)		To the provider, enrollee, and hospital, in writing, and must include the process to initiate an appeal, within ten (10) business days following receipt of the request for the service, unless the MCO receives an extension of the resolution period	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.4	§438.210 (d)(2)(i)	Expedited Authorizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.5	§438.210 (d)(1)	Extensions of Time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.6	§438.210(d)(3) and 42 USC 1396r-8(d)(5)	Covered Outpatient Drug Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.3.3.7	§438.210 (d)(1)	Delay in Authorizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Internal Appeals Process Requirements

DHS Contract, Section 8.4

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.4.	§438.404	Internal Appeals Process Requirements		
Sec. 8.4.1.	§438.402 (b)	One Level Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.2.	§438.408 (b)	Filing Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.3.	§438.408	Timeframe for Resolution of Appeals		
8.4.3.1	§438.408 (b)(2)	Standard Appeals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.3.2	§438.408 (b)(3)	Expedited Appeals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.3.3	§438.408 (c)(3)	Deemed Exhaustion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.4.	§438.408 (c)	Timeframe for Extension of Resolution of Appeals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.5.	§438.406	Handling of Appeals		
8.4.5.1	§438.406 (b)(3)	Oral Inquiries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.2	§438.406 (b)(1)	Written Acknowledgment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.3	§438.406 (a)	Reasonable Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.4	§438.406 (b)(2)	Individual Making Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.5	§438.406 (b)(2)	Appropriate Clinical Expertise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.6	§438.406 (b)(4)	Opportunity to Present Evidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.7	§438.406 (b)(5)	Opportunity to Examine the Care File	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.8	§438.406 (b)(6)	Parties to the Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.5.9	§438.410 (b)	Prohibition of Punitive Action Subsequent Appeals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.6.		Subsequent Appeals If an Enrollee Appeals a decision from a previous Appeal on the same issue, and the MCO decides to hear it, for purposes of the timeframes for resolution, this will be considered a new Appeal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.7.	§438.408 (d)(2)	Notice of Resolution of Appeals		
8.4.7.1	§438.408 (d)(2)	Written Notice Content	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
8.4.7.2	§438.210 (c)	Appeals of UM Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
8.4.7.3	§438.410 (c) and .408 (d)(2)(ii)	Telephone Notification of Expedited Appeals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.4.8.	§438.424	Reversed Appeal Resolutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.5.	§438.420 (b)	Continuation of Benefits Pending Appeal or State Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.5.	§438.420	Continuation of Benefits Pending Appeal or State Appeal		
Sec. 8.5.1	§438.420 (b)	Continuation of Benefits Pending Resolution of Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.5.2	§438.420 (b)	Continuation of Benefits Pending Resolution of State Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.5.3	§438.420 (d)	Upheld Appeal Resolutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.6.	§438.416	Maintenance of Grievance and Appeal Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

State Appeals

DHS Contract, Section 8.8

Section	42 CFR	Subject	Met	Not Met
Section 8.8.	§438.416 (c)	State Appeals		
Sec. 8.8.2.	§438.408 (f)	Standard Hearing Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.3.	§431.250	Costs of State Fair Hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.4.	§431.250	Expedited Hearing Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.5.	§438.424	Compliance with State Appeal Resolution		
Sec. 8.8.5.1.	§438.424	Compliance with Decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.5.2.	§438.424(a)	MCO's Responsibility for Payment of Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.5.3.	§438.424(b)	Upheld State Fair Hearing Resolutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.7.	§438.48(f)	External Review or Medical Review Participation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Sec. 8.8.8.	§431.245	Judicial Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

VI. Access and Availability

Geographic Accessibility

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62D.124

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Primary Care, Mental Health Services, General Hospital Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Other Health Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Waiver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 6.	Provider Network Notifications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Essential Community Providers

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.19

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 3.	Contract with Essential Community Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Availability and Accessibility

Minnesota Rules, Part 4685.1010

Subparts	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subp. 2.	Basic Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 5.	Coordination of Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subp. 6.	Timely Access to Health Care Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Licensure of Medical Directors

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.121

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
62Q.121.	Licensure of Medical Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Coverage of Nonformulary Drugs for Mental Illness and Emotional Disturbance

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.527.

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 2.	Required Coverage for Anti-psychotic Drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Continuing Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 4.	Exception to Formulary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Coverage for Court-Ordered Mental Health Services

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.535

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 2.	Coverage required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Emergency Services

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.55

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Access to Emergency Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Emergency Medical Condition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Continuity of Care

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.56

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met	N/A
Subd. 1.	Change in health care provider, general notification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subd. 1a.	Change in health care provider, termination not for cause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subd. 1b.	Change in health care provider, termination for cause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subd. 2.	Change in health plans (applies to group, continuation and conversion coverage)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

VII. Utilization Review

Utilization Review Files

MDH examined HealthPartners commercial utilization review (UR) system under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62M. A total of 18 utilization review files were reviewed.

Commercial UR System File Review

File Source	# Reviewed
Commercial <i>UM Denial Files</i>	
HealthPartners	9
<i>Subtotal</i>	
Commercial <i>Clinical Appeal Files</i>	
HealthPartners	9
<i>Subtotal</i>	
Total	18

Scope

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.01

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 3.	Scope	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Definitions

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.02

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1 – 18, 20	Definitions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62Q.55

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 2.	Emergency medical condition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Emergency services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Standards for Utilization Review Performance

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.04

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Responsibility on Obtaining Certification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Information upon which Utilization Review is Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Procedures for Review Determination

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.05

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met	NCQA
Subd. 1.	Written Procedures	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subd. 2.	Concurrent Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 3.	Notification of Determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subd. 3a.	Standard Review Determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
	(a) Initial determination to certify or not (10 business days)	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
	(b) Initial determination to certify (telephone notification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
	(c) Initial determination not to certify (notice within 1 working day)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
	(d) Initial determination not to certify (notice of right to appeal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 3b.	Expedited Review Determination	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 4.	Failure to Provide Necessary Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subd. 5.	Notifications to Claims Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	

Appeals of Determinations Not to Certify

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.06

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Procedures for Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Expedited Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Standard Appeal		
	(a) Procedures for appeals written and telephone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
	(b) Appeal resolution notice timeline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
	(c) Documentation requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
(d)	Review by a different physician	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
(e)	Defined time period in which to file appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
(f)	Unsuccessful appeal to reverse determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
(g)	Same or similar specialty review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
(h)	Notice of rights to external review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 4.	Notifications to Claims Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Prior Authorization of Services

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.07

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Written Standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Prior Authorization of Emergency Services Prohibited	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 3.	Retrospective Revocation or Limitation of Prior Authorization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 4.	Submission of Prior Authorization Requests	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Confidentiality

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.08

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Written Procedures to Ensure Confidentiality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Staff and Program Qualifications

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.09

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met	NCQA
Subd. 1.	Staff Criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 2.	Licensure Requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 3.	Physician Reviewer; Adverse Determinations	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA

Subdivision	Subject	Met	Not Met	NCQA
Subd. 3a.	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	
Subd. 4.	Dentist Plan Reviews	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 4a.	Chiropractic Reviews	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 5.	Written Clinical Criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 6.	Physician Consultants	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 7.	Training for Program Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA
Subd. 8.	Quality Assessment Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA

Complaints to Commerce or Health

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.11

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
62M.11.	Complaints to Commerce or Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.12

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met	NCQA
62M.12.	Prohibition of Inappropriate Incentives	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCQA

Continuity of Care: Prior Authorizations

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.17

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 1.	Compliance with prior authorization approved by previous utilization review organization; change in health plan company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met
Subd. 2.	Effect of change in prior authorization clinical criteria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Annual Posting on Website; Prior Authorizations

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62M.18

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
62M.18.	Annual posting on website; prior authorizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Prohibited Practices

Minnesota Statutes, Section 62D.12

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met
Subd. 19.	Coverage of service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met

Reconstructive surgery (*reviewed only if applicable files*)**Minnesota Statutes, Section 62A.25**

Section	Subject	Met	Not Met	N/A
Subd. 1.	Scope of coverage	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Subd. 2.	Required coverage	<input type="checkbox"/> Met	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Met	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

VIII. Summary of Findings

Recommendations

1. None Identified

Mandatory Improvements

1. None Identified

Deficiencies

1. None Identified