

Essential Health Benefits/Standard Plan Rulemaking Advisory Committee

Summary of Public Comment received as of April 17, 2015.

The Essential Health Benefits/Standard Plan Rulemaking Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Limited time is available at each meeting to present comments in person. Whether individuals submit comments in person or not, all individuals who wish to submit public comment are strongly encouraged to do so in writing via email to essential.healthbenefits@oregon.gov.

Individual	Organization	Rec'd	Public Comment/Testimony
Vern Saboe, DC	Oregon Chiropractic Association	4/9/15	<p>Dr. Saboe wants the committee to know that many Oregon chiropractors act as primary care providers and provide health care interventions. Dr. Saboe's comments included a list of services that are essential health benefits provided by chiropractors. This list of services included services such as ambulatory, maternity, newborn care, rehabilitative and habilitative, laboratory, preventative care, disease management and pediatric, all of which, according to Dr. Saboe, are within a chiropractor's clinical training and scope of licensure and practice. Dr. Saboe indicates that benefits not included in a chiropractor's scope are emergency services, hospitalization, mental health, substance abuse, and prescription drugs.</p> <p>The comments included two opinions from Legislative Counsel addressed to Representative Kennemer regarding discrimination against provider types in the coverage of essential health benefits and regarding DCBS's proposed guidance relating to provider nondiscrimination.</p>
Natalie Weintraub, LMT	Private Practice	4/09/15	<p>Licensed Massage Therapist, Natalie Weintraub, expressed concerns related to discrimination of massage therapists and to the lack of coverage for massage therapy services. She believes that essential health benefits should include massage therapy. She stated that some insurance companies now consider massage to be a rehabilitative service akin to physical therapy. Ms. Weintraub referenced an American Massage Therapy Association article, which can be found at: https://www.thegrottolibrary.info/Collection/EHB_Final.pdf</p>
P.K. Melethil, MS, L.Ac., Dipl.	Traditional Chinese Medicine Physician	4/09/15	<p>Dr. Melethil's wants the group to consider including acupuncture as part of the 2015 essential health benefits. He stated that over prescription of opioids and other narcotics is a national problem and acupuncture can treat a broad range of health issues, including pain management, neuromuscular syndromes, gastrointestinal disorders, and genitourinary dysfunction. Dr. Melethil referenced ORS 677.757, the definition of acupuncture.</p>

