Closed Session Minutes

of the

Maryland Commission on Kidney Disease

April 27, 2017

Upon motion made in public session, Chairman Jaar called for adjournment of the Public Session into closed session to discuss the following items:

1. Discussion on Survey Deficiency Findings at a Dialysis Facility and Status of Corrective Action Plans. Authority: General Provisions Article, § 3-104.
2. Discussion of Confidential Pricing of Veltassa requested to be added to the Kidney Disease Program's Formulary- Authority: General Provisions Article, § 3-305(b)(7) and (13).

The Closed Session was called to order at 3:53 p.m. and held under the authority of § 3-104 of the General Provisions Article.

In attendance, in addition to Chairman Jaar, were Commissioners' Collins, Hanes, Leon, Rayfield, Schiff, Segal, Thavarajah, Kraus, and Yospin were present. Dr. Jaar left the meeting at 4:45 p.m. and then Dr. Kraus chaired the balance of the meeting.

In attendance representing Staff was Eva Schwartz, Executive Director and Donna Adcock, RN, Surveyor.

Also attending was Leslie Schulman, Commission Counsel.

Item One

Donna Adcock and Eva Schwartz updated the Commission resurvey of the facility that the Commission found to be significantly deficient in its water treatment systems, oversight and staff training responsibilities, and patient safety and quality issues. After discussion ensued, the Commissioners held a formal meeting with the facility's Regional Director, Clinical Director, and Medical Director who responded to questions posed by the Commissioners. The facility discussed its ongoing plans for corrective action and quality improvements to assure patient safety. The facility also discussed its plans to reexamine its governance and to explore Medical Director Responsibilities. (Authority: General Provisions Article, § 3-104)

Item Two

The Commission discussed the request by Relypsa, Inc. to approve adding Veltassa to the Kidney Disease Program's (KDP) Formulary for the treatment of hyperkalemia. After discussing the clinical benefits and the cost factors in comparison to the other approved potassium binder agent formulary drugs, the Commission unanimously voted to approve adding Veltassa to the formulary. Counsel advised the Commission that ratification of the vote will take place at the next Public Session in July. (Authority: General Provisions Article, §§ 3-305 (b)(7) and (13)

Upon Motion made, the Closed Session was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.