Committee Members: Deb Sopo, chair; Farah Jalloul, MPA staff liaison; Lindsey Ghiringhelli, MPA Executive Board staff liaison; AAPA Representative; Ghada Abdallah; Courtney Biehl; Michael Breen; Raymond Burzynski; Jake Chaffee; Anthony Codrean; Amy Ellis; Jennifer Erley; Carrie Germain; Jonathan Grice; John Gross; Bethany Hill; Manjula Jayabalan; Heather Kauffman; Jeff Kauffman; Chris Maksym; Millie Mo; Samia Mirza; Kim Moon; Dawn Parsons; Doug Samojedny; and Hanadi Thomas

Meeting Dates: March 7, 2019; May 23, 2019; Oct. 2, 2019; Dec. 5, 2019

I. Progress Report for 2019 Committee Charges

Charge #1: Explore communication options for members to share third party information and make a recommendation for action.

The MPA Executive Board continues to recognize the value in the information from various committees. However, the communication provided by the Third Party Committee is difficult and publicizing the information is complicated due to legal and antitrust issues. The Committee acknowledges that there have been a few roadblocks in regards to the antitrust laws, but still see the benefit of the information shared and would like to continue to explore options.

The Committee Action Item that rolls up to this charge is to provide recommendations and to identify potential benefit to members. The Committee acknowledges that information will vary for different pharmacy practice settings, as different settings will present with different priorities. During the next year, the Committee would be in favor of reaching out to membership and exploring the different priorities for input on what information they would find beneficial/valuable. Considering all of the challenges the Committee as a whole has faced, a suggestion is made to create a task force/subcommittee that would address this issue and explore options to come up with recommendations.

Charge #2: Continue to establish and enhance relationships with third-party payers and government officials to promote the value of pharmacy services and develop a partnership for the payment of professional services.

The Committee is actively soliciting third party payer participation. The Committee members feel that discussion, recognition and collaboration would be more productive and informative if more payers participated. The Committee meetings are strategically scheduled on the same day as the quarterly Medicaid Pharmacy Provider
Liaison Meetings to increase participation. The Committee also provides feedback on proposed legislation and promotes activities through MPA’s Political Action Council.

**Charge #3: Educate the MPA membership on third party issues through timely communications**

After discussion, the Committee would like to shy away from using the word “issues” in Charge 3 since education of third party topics could be geared towards successes and opportunities. Committee members were encouraged to share “hot topics” with MPA staff that could be essentially shared through MPA’s electronic newsletter (MPA E-News) or publications (Michigan Pharmacist journal). The Committee would like to educate MPA membership on payer topics and would like to explore more options.

**Charge #4: To partner with at least one managed care organization or self-insured employer to explore payments for pharmacist services.**

The Committee is unclear about what the Charge is tasking the Committee with and would like further clarification from the Board. If the outcome of the Charge is to obtain information on current practice, the Committee would like to survey all payers to determine if pharmacists are getting reimbursed and explore the barriers. Committee members currently have models that are paying for pharmacist delivered services. The payments are not directly reimbursed to the pharmacist, but nonetheless, the pharmacist is getting paid for services provided.

**II. Other Committee Activities**

**Annual Responsibility #1: Consider the House of Delegates resolution(s) referred to the Committee by the MPA Executive Board.**

Four resolutions were sent to this Committee for discussion and input. The Committee provided the following resolutions as referred by the MPA Executive Board:

- Resolution 19-01 Developing Resources to Alleviate Medication Shortages: Support.
- Resolution 19-02 Removal of Marihuana-Infused Edibles Category, so as not to have it allowed through retail sale: Oppose.
- Resolution 19-05 Methadone for Opioid Addiction: Oppose.

**CHAMPS** – MDHHS will implement enhanced claim processing edits to deny prescriptions for fee-for-service and Managed Care Organization (MCO) program beneficiaries when the prescription is written by a prescriber who is not enrolled in CHAMPS. Effective Oct. 1, 2019, providers who prescribe drugs to Medicaid beneficiaries must be actively enrolled in CHAMPS. Payments for prescription drug claims written by a prescriber who is not enrolled in CHAMPS will be denied. The Third Party Committee has been working with MDHHS to reach out to pharmacists to make a contact with those prescribers not enrolled in CHAMPS.

**Naloxone Standing Order** – With the transition of the Michigan Chief Medical Executive Officer, the Committee shared their concerns with MDHHS in regards to the pharmacies that are currently enrolled and how to ease that transition.
Discussion – Expansion of Prescriptive Authority for Pharmacists
The Committee was reviewing opportunities to explore, such as pharmacist prescriptive authority for statins in other states. Statins would improve the health plan’s measures and improve care/potential patient outcome. The Committee agrees that it is a clinical intervention that can be trackable. It can directly affect the clinical outcome and improve the performance of the health plan.

Discussion – Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network (CPESN)
The Committee invited CPESN Michigan to present at a meeting. The Committee engaged the network and provided insight towards the current payment model.

III. Recommendation(s) for Next Year’s Charges
- **Charge #1** – Explore communication options to educate MPA membership on third party related topics and make recommendations for action.
- **Charge #2** – Continue to establish relationships with third-party payers and government officials to promote the value of pharmacy services and develop a partnership for the payment of professional services.
- **Charge #3** – Explore payment models utilized by payers and/or pharmacies that are effectively reimbursing for pharmacist services and make results available for MPA membership.

IV. Recommendation(s) for Next Year’s Committee Members
- Deb Sopo, chair
- Ghada Abdallah
- Courtney Biehl
- Michael Breen
- Raymond Burzynski
- Jake Chaffee
- Anthony Codrean
- Amy Ellis
- Jennifer Erley
- Carrie Germain
- Jonathan Grice
- John Gross
- Bethany Hill
- Manjula Jayabalan
- Heather Kauffman
- Jeff Kaufman
- Chris Maksym
- Saima Mirza
- Millie Mo
- Kim Moon
- Dawn Parsons
- Doug Samojedny
- Hanadi Thomas
- AAPA Representative

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Sopo, chair