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NH Insurance Department to Hold Nov. 4 Annual Public Hearing on Health Insurance Premiums
Hearing Will Focus on Pharmaceuticals as a Cost Driver in New Hampshire

CONCORD, NH – The New Hampshire Insurance Department will host its annual public hearing on health care costs and payment systems from 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m. on Friday, November 4, 2016, at the University of New Hampshire School of Law in Concord.

According to state law, the Insurance Commissioner “shall hold an annual public hearing concerning premium rates in the health insurance market and the factors, including health care costs and cost trends, that have contributed to rate increases during the prior year.” This year’s public hearing is based on data and information available in 2015. The hearing will focus on prescription drugs as a cost-driver.

“The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s annual hearing is an important tool to increase transparency and foster dialogue on health care costs in New Hampshire,” said New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner Roger Sevigny. “Each year, we convene health insurance companies, health care providers, members of state government, and New Hampshire residents to examine what’s behind higher health care costs in the state and what can be done about it. I encourage anyone who is interested to attend, either in person or remotely.”

The health insurance consulting firm Gorman Actuarial will discuss the major findings from the 2015 data submitted by health insurance companies in New Hampshire in preparation for the hearing.

Three separate panel discussions will focus on pharmaceuticals:

- **Drug Pricing, Clinical Effectiveness, and the Need for Transparency:** The panel will feature an independent physician and a representative from the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review.
- **Pharmaceuticals, Payments, and Benefit Management:** The panel will feature representatives from MedImpact, Cigna, and PhRMA.
- **Insurance Carriers:** Representatives from Anthem and Harvard Pilgrim will discuss pharmacy benefit management, product design, and treatment alternatives.

The Department also will present updates to its NHHealthCost.org website, a health care transparency tool developed to help consumers understand their actual costs for health care services throughout the state.

The hearing is open to the public, although seating is limited. Live streaming of the event is planned. [Reserve a seat](#) to attend the event in person, or [register](#) for the livestream option.

More information on the event can be found on the Insurance Department website:
<http://www.nh.gov/insurance/media/events/2016-annual-hearing.htm>

The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and

enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. For more information, visit <http://www.nh.gov/insurance>.