

Stuart Chesky, DO, JD, Ohio KePRO Medical Director, Appointed to Ohio Joint Legislative Study Commission on Most Favored Nation Clauses in Health Care Contracts

Dr. Chesky's medical and legal expertise will be critical when determining the impact of most favored nation clauses on health care costs and on the availability of, and accessibility to, quality health care

Last update: 4:10 p.m. EDT Oct. 20, 2008

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct 20, 2008 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Stuart Chesky, DO, JD, Medical Director of Ohio KePRO was one of 17 respected health care and legal experts chosen to serve on Ohio's Joint Legislative Study Commission on Most Favored Nation Clauses in Health Care Contracts. The Commission was established as part of HB-125, the Health Care Simplification Act, passed earlier this year.

"The overall goal of the Commission is to simplify the bureaucracy of the health care system so that hospitals and physicians can concentrate on what they do best -- caring for patients," said Dr. Chesky. "I am honored to have been selected to serve on the Commission that will focus on making health care contracting more fair for everyone. I will work hard for all Ohioans so that our health care delivery system is the best in the nation."

The Commission will study health care contracts to investigate the precompetitive and anticompetitive aspects of favored nation clauses, which are contractual agreements between a buyer and a seller stating that the price paid by the buyer will be at least as low as the price paid by other buyers purchasing the same commodity -- in this case, health care. The Commission will also address the impact that most favored nation

clauses have on health care costs and on the availability of, and accessibility to, quality health care, and the costs associated with the enforcement of most favored nation clauses.

Dr. Chesky currently serves as Medical Director, where he oversees physician review services performed on behalf of Ohio's Medicare beneficiaries as part of the Ohio KePRO quality improvement organization (QIO) contract. He also is the medical director for the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) contract held by parent company, KePRO, to provide expert medical malpractice review and risk management services on behalf of federally qualified health centers. In addition, Dr. Chesky is the Medical Director for KePRO's Florida Home Health contract and oversees KePRO's peer reviewer credentialing process.

Dr. Chesky received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Midwestern University/Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine; his specialty is Obstetrical and Gynecological Surgery. He is licensed to practice medicine in multiple states, including Ohio. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from the Ohio Northern University College of Law. His Bachelor of Science degree is from Roosevelt University.

About Ohio KePRO

Ohio KePRO, a KePRO company, is the Medicare quality improvement organization (QIO) for the state of Ohio. Ohio KePRO, located in Cleveland, improves the quality of care for, and the quality of life of, Ohio's 1.8 million Medicare beneficiaries.

About KePRO

KePRO, a leading quality improvement and care management organization, offers innovative and outcomes-focused solutions to reduce the utilization of health care resources and optimize quality of care for public and commercial clients. KePRO's comprehensive, member centric care management solutions go far beyond traditional utilization and case management by coordinating the care provided to members with acute, chronic and complex conditions across the continuum, and identifying members who are at the highest risk for future services, but have not yet had an acute event. Tailored programs maximize members' quality of life, and realize greater cost savings for members and clients.

Headquartered in Pennsylvania, KePRO also has offices in Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia. KePRO is URAC health utilization management and case management accredited. For more information, visit <http://www.kepro.org>.

SOURCE KePRO

<http://www.kepro.org>

Copyright (C) 2008 PR Newswire. All rights reserved