The Health Innovations (B) Working Group met July 30, 2020. During this meeting, the Working Group:

1. Approved its June 23 minutes.

2. Heard a presentation on privacy requirements for telehealth communications under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). An attorney with Manatt Health reviewed which HIPAA standards were required versus addressable, the flexibility established under the COVID-19 pandemic, and other considerations for covered entities in complying with privacy requirements.

3. Heard a panel discussion on telemedicine from representatives of stakeholder groups. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) shared poll results and concerns from patients and mental health providers. America’s Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) reviewed the growth in telehealth services, ongoing challenges, and what states can do to further promote telehealth. The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) discussed changes to provider workflows, regulatory flexibilities and ongoing challenges, including lack of alignment across payers.

4. Heard a presentation from the Milbank Memorial Fund on strategies for cost control. It suggested five areas in which state insurance regulators can incentivize and encourage greater health care system affordability.