

**State Consumer Health Information and Policy
Advisory Council Meeting**

MINUTES

Date: September 26, 2007

Start Time: 10:10 a.m.

Venue: Face-to-face and by teleconference, Agency for Health Care Administration, Tallahassee, FL

Members Present: Andrew Agwunobi, M.D., Secretary, AHCA; James Bracher, J. Bracher & Associates; Michael Epstein, M.D., All Children's Hospital; Diane Godfrey, Florida Hospital; Sally House, Florida Retail Federation; Meade Grigg, proxy for Ana Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H., Florida Department of Health; Charles Milsted, AARP; Rich Robleto, proxy for Robert Wychulis, Florida Association of Health Plans; Mary Beth Senkewicz, Office of Insurance Regulation; Harry Spring, Chair, Humana, Inc.; Kim Streit, Florida Hospital Association; and Michael Wasyluk, M.D., Florida Medical Association.

Members Present

By Teleconference: Paul Duncan, Ph.D., Department of Health Services Administration, University of Florida; Glennnda Newman, proxy for Carolyn Timmann, Executive Office of the Governor; and Karen L. van Caulil, Ph.D., Health Council of East Central Florida, Inc.

Members Absent: Kate Kemker, Florida Department of Education

AHCA Staff

present: Cheryl Barfield; Amber Bell; Nancy Carvallo; Cruz Conrad; Bill Dahlem, Ph.D.; Beth Eastman; Sue Gambill; Adrienne Henderson; Cymeia Hill; Cindy Kucheman; Sachi Mankodi; Alex Perry; Christopher Sullivan, Ph.D.; Mark Thomas; Jerome Todd; Carolyn Turner; and Oneika Williams

Other Participants: Mark Alexander, I.S. Consulting; Richard Burford, 3M; Norbert Goldfield, M.D., 3M; Askar Chukmaitov, M.D., Ph.D.; F.S.U. College of Medicine; R.H. Hahn, Vista Health Plan; Alma Littles, M.D., F.S.U. College of Medicine; Mark Loy, I.S. Consulting; Tom Lloyd, Vanderbilt Center for Better Health; Margie Martinez, Magellan Health; Steve Mindlin, Rose, Sundstrom & Bentley; James Mosteller, American Heart Association; Bruce Platt, Akerman Senterfitt; Erna Rappaport, Tenet Palmetto General Hospital; Denise Remus, Bay Care Health Systems; Patrice Vance, Health Corporation of America; and Mark Swanson, Orlando Regional Hospital

Other Participants

By teleconference: Horen Boyagian, Treo Solutions; Jimmy Card, PMP; Kathy Holzer, Florida Hospital Association; Betsy Miller, Health Corporation of America Healthcare; Elizabeth McCullen, 3M; Carol Paris, Orlando Regional Healthcare; Rhonda Shuck, Florida Hospital; and Connie Thornton, North Broward Hospital District.

Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call: Harry Spring, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members, audience participants, staff, and those attending by conference call. He then called the roll and verified presence of a quorum.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Charles Milsted made a motion to accept the May 18, 2007 draft minutes. Diane Godfrey seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Advisory Council Update: Harry Spring, Chair, introduced the new members to the Advisory Council, welcoming Mary Beth Senkewicz, Office of Insurance Regulation, Sally House, Florida Retail Federation and Charles Milsted, AARP. He noted that these new members, along with recent appointees Carolyn Timmann, Executive Office of the Governor, Kate Kemker, Department of Education, Dr. Michael Wasylik, Florida Medical Association and Dr. Michael Epstein, All Children's Hospital brings the Advisory Council to a membership of sixteen and reflects the Agency's goal to expand stakeholder involvement in creating transparency in health care to the citizens of Florida.

Agency Update: Beth Eastman, Interim Bureau Chief for the Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis welcomed the members and provided them with an update of the Agency's recent activities regarding the Florida Center. She related that Lisa Rawlins, former Bureau Chief and Director of the Florida Center, had recently accepted a position with North Broward Hospital District and was no longer with the Agency. Ms. Eastman explained that she would be acting as Interim Bureau Chief during the ongoing selection process for a new Director and Bureau Chief. In her update, Ms. Eastman advised the members that the Florida Center was currently working to revise current rules to align with the new UB04, that CMS DRGs would be incorporated into the data collection process and that a new pricing rule had been established for data requests. She went on to say that the website integration process was going well and should be completed in time for it to go live under the URL of FloridaHealthFinder.gov on November 8, 2007, exactly two years since the debut of FloridaCompareCare. She related that the Emergency Room Report and the Health Expenditure Report were also being completed and would be posted to the website soon. Although the Cesarean Report was no longer statutorily required, it would still be included in the reports done by the Florida Center.

Ms. Eastman informed the Advisory Council that the adverse incident data collection would now be a part of the Florida Center and that the Patient Safety Workgroup had met on September 13 to discuss national standards and making changes in the current processes. She informed the members that the next Patient Safety Workgroup meeting would be October 15 and stated that the Agency was looking forward to working with the participants in bringing changes to the process.

Dr. Agwunobi took a moment to thank the Council for its past leadership and welcomed the new members. He reminded them that the Agency's mission was to ensure all Floridians access to health care information that would help them make good health care decisions. Dr. Agwunobi stated he would like to thank Lisa Rawlins for her past commitment and leadership in accomplishing this mission during her tenure at the Florida Center and expressed his appreciation for her contributions to the Agency and to the Council. He noted that the search for Ms. Rawlins' successor was ongoing, and welcomed suggestions for potential candidates from the members.

MOTION: Upon a motion by James Bracher, which was seconded by Kim Streit, it was unanimously decided that the Agency and the Advisory Council would present a plaque to Lisa Rawlins in appreciation of her past service and contributions.

Dr. Agwunobi also noted that the Governor's Health Information and Infrastructure Advisory Board had sunset on June 30th and he was recommending that the Advisory Council work with the Health

Information Technology Committee to assist in realizing its goals of expanding electronic health information records.

Harry Spring, Chair, informed the members that Randy Miller, Vice Chair, would be unable to complete his appointment and service as Vice Chair due to conflicting commitments. He then called for nominations for a new Vice Chair. Rich Robleto, proxy for Robert Wychulis, nominated Sally House, who was appointed as Mr. Miller's replacement on the Council. Kim Streit nominated Dr. Michael Wasyluk, who, after thanking the members for the consideration, declined the nomination. Upon a vote of the members, Sally House was selected as the new Vice Chair.

Discussion: Vanderbilt Center for Better Health: Ms. Eastman introduced Tom Lloyd of the Vanderbilt Center for Better Health. Mr. Lloyd provided an overview of the information provided and activities accomplished during the two day offsite retreat held by the members in June and reviewed VCBH's report, *Defining Florida's Transparency Horizon for Health Care*. There was discussion among the members regarding innovation, transparency, guiding principals of the Council and goals and objectives for the future. Secretary Agwunobi cautioned the members to be sure to remember what is trying to be accomplished when providing information to the public. He suggested that the information being used should be standardized so when comparing data on the Florida site, it should be within reason, similar to the facilities' websites or other sites. Dr. Agwunobi further suggested that the guiding principals for transparency initiatives be reviewed and expanded if necessary. When asked when would that happen, the Chair responded that he felt the members could discuss this, along with the strategic plan, at the next meeting, and begin to narrow the scope of work necessary to accomplish the goals agreed upon. Secretary Agwunobi suggested that each member sift through the report and list action steps for work sessions to bring back to the meeting for further discussion and voting. He urged the members to consider how to proceed, then focus on structuring the Advisory Council and Workgroups based on the member recommendations and suggestions.

After a short break for lunch, the meeting was reconvened, and Harry Spring, Chair, verified a quorum. At this time, he also reminded new members, as well as returning members, of the Florida Sunshine law and its impact on the members and this meeting.

3M Potentially Preventable Hospital Readmission Partnership: Harry Spring, Chair introduced Richard Burford, 3M HIS and Dr. Norbert Goldfield. Dr. Goldfield reviewed 3M's recommendations for Potentially Preventable Readmissions and the methodology behind the APR-DRGs as they applied to the discussion.

AGENCY TASK: During this presentation, it was recommended that the Agency check on the ability of the facilities to verify readmission data from Hospital A to Hospital B when a patient changes hospitals.

Secretary Agwunobi reminded members that readmission rates versus public reporting may prove difficult in that it would be difficult to relate to the public the value of the data as presented, and that if this information were to be presented on the website, sufficient disclaimers and/or explanations would be necessary to ensure that the data was useful. Dr. Goldfield indicated that certain types of patients should be excluded from the report, such as neo-nates and victims of vehicular trauma. He stressed that initial care greatly affected readmission rates and that discharge planning starts with the hospital. The members discussed the methodology of PPRs and agreed with Dr. Goldfield's recommendation that the window for PPR be 15 days for counting PPR chains. It was agreed also that the website would display a procedure and consumers could then drill down to see the overall hospital data at a condition level.

AGENCY TASK: Kim Streit requested that staff facilitate a conference call for the facilities to learn and understand the methodology behind the reports.

Ms. Streit stated that it would be helpful for the hospitals to be able to share best practices regarding readmissions and would like the Agency to help disseminate the tools and information to facilitate the discussion. Richard Burford suggested that they could prepare the reports for the hospitals to review in advance of posting on the website. Harry Spring, Chair, suggested that the Agency runs the data, and provides the information to the group at least two weeks prior to posting, and the workgroup would then make recommendations. He stressed that it must be good data in order to reflect the actual circumstances. James Bracher suggested that they look to 3M for where to start, let a workgroup address whatever issues may come up, and then make recommendations to the Advisory Council for posting. Diane Godfrey stressed the need for a learning curve for the hospitals and expressed concern that hospitals should be educated before the discussion went to the workgroup. Beth Eastman suggested that they proceed with the 2006 data and discuss any updates after that, noting that PPRs would not be included in the November rollout of the new website redesign.

Presentation: Beth Eastman introduced Mark Alexander and Mark Loy of I.S. Consulting, the vendor who has been working with the Agency on the creation and re-design of the website. Mr. Alexander provided an update on the re-design, noting that the URL would be changing to FloridaHealthFinder.gov and would be going live on or about November 8, 2007. He then provided examples of the new design, walking the members through a demonstration of the new pages and describing each new feature designed to help users navigate the site more easily when searching for information. Mr. Alexander provided a look at the new ADAM health care encyclopedia and the Symptom Navigator tool which have been added to the site and demonstrated how they can be used in relation to the health outcome data when available. The members were enthusiastic about the changes and questioned how to get the word out about the website. Mr. Alexander explained that users would be redirected to the new site when accessing FloridaCompareCare, and that the new URL would be listed in all of the top search engines. Diane Godfrey reminded members that the Public Relations workgroup had a communications plan in place that would be useful in getting the word out about the new site. Suggestions from the group included targeting universities, sororities and fraternities, as well as schools, libraries and health care facilities for getting the information to the public.

Discussion: Harry Spring, Chair, introduced Christopher Sullivan, Ph.D, of the Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis, who is also administrator of the Health Information Technology unit. Dr. Sullivan began by explaining to the members that the Governor's Health Information and Infrastructure Advisory Board (GHIIAB) had been administering grants to the Regional Health Information Organizations, but the Board had recently sunset under the statute and no longer existed. It was the suggestion of the Governor, and the Secretary, that a new Health Information Technology workgroup be formed under the guidance of the State Consumer Health Information and Policy Advisory Council to continue the work of the GHIIAB providing leadership and guidance to the state health information exchanges.

AGENCY TASK: Dr. Sullivan stated he would provide the members of the Council with an email containing a link to the Florida Health Information Network (FHIN) website.

There was then a discussion among the members about the transmission of data between providers and related security issues, in addition to the basic structure and goals of the HIT workgroup. Harry Spring, Chair, expressed his concern that the workgroup as it was explained may not be structured in a manner which would make it conducive to being a workgroup under the Advisory Council and recommended that the workgroup either stand alone, or modify its structure to fit the Advisory Council. Of concern was the independent decision making process of the HIT workgroup regarding grants and operation, as well as the workgroup's ability to assign its own membership. He further encouraged Dr. Sullivan to consider

modifying the workgroup's structure to include more flexibility in receiving recommendations from the Council on certain issues.

MOTION: Kim Streit made a motion to accept the HIT workshop under the auspices of the State Consumer Health Information and Policy Advisory Council. After discussion, the motion was modified to accept the HIT workgroup under the Advisory Council with the recommended modifications discussed. Mary Beth Senkewicz then restated the motion, and clarified that the HIT workgroup should modify its structure so that membership is appointed according to the procedures set forth for the Advisory Council and should make presentations to the Advisory Council rather than directly to the Agency. Jim Bracher seconded the modified motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY TASK: The Chair requested staff to provide members with possible dates for meetings in October and November, stating that it would be preferable to have meetings more frequently than once a quarter since there were so many issues to discuss and decide upon.

Upon a motion by Mary Beth Senkewicz, and a second by Rich Robleto, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.