

Minutes of Healthcare Data Advisory Council

February 13, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Board Room 1586
Alabama Department of
Public Health
The RSA Tower
Montgomery, Alabama

Members Present

Thomas Miller, M.D.; Acting Chairman, Deputy Director for Medical Affairs

Beth Anderson; Alabama Hospital Association

Laura Bell; Alabama Hospital Association

Rick Finch; Business Council of Alabama

Beth Goodall; Alabama Hospital Association

Keith Granger; Alabama Hospital Association

Linda Jordan; Alabama Hospital Association

Claude Kinzer, M.D.; Medical Association of the State of Alabama

William McCollum, M.D.; Medical Association of the State of Alabama

Patty Miller; Alabama Hospital Association

Foster Ware; Business Council of Alabama

Susan Warren; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama

Randall Weaver, M.D.; Medical Association of the State of Alabama

Members Absent

Julie Boothe, M.D.; Medical Association of the State of Alabama

Stacy Hollis; Consumer

Donna Joyner; Public Education Employee Health Insurance Plan

Michael O'Malley; Alabama Association of Health Plans

Alan M. Stamm, M.D.; Association for Professionals in Infection Control

Debbie Taylor; State Employees' Insurance Board

Staff Present

Nadine Crawford; Communicable Disease

Sherri Davidson; Communicable Disease

Mary G. McIntyre, M.D., Disease Prevention and Control

Kelly Stevens; Communicable Disease

Harrison Wallace; Communicable Disease

Organizations Present

Rosemary Blackmon, Alabama Hospital Association

CALL TO ORDER:

The Healthcare Data Advisory Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. Miller. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES (EXHIBIT "A"):

The minutes from September 12, 2012, and October 10, 2012, were reviewed and a request was made to correct Dr. Claude Kinzer's nickname to "Butch" in the October 10, 2012, minutes. With this correction, a motion to approve both the October and September minutes was made and seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

HAI PROGRAM ACTIVITIES FOR DISCUSSION:

Sherri Davidson, Epidemiologist Supervisor, presented the 2012 preliminary data overview. Overall, the Statistical Infection Rates (SIRs) were lower compared to 2011. The Council remarked that this reassures that all of the work put into the reporting program is working and that reporting in general has captured the attention of hospital CEOs. The Council also mentioned other drivers towards improved data such as the Comprehensive Unit Safety Practice (CUSP) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) projects.

Guidance was requested from the Council with regards to reporting 2012 data on hospitals that are closed. The Council discussed the inability to validate data on closed facilities and the possibility that inclusion would distort statistical analysis of the data. A motion to exclude 2012 data for hospitals that are closed was made and seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Rosemary Blackmon, Executive Vice-President/CEO of the Alabama Hospital Association (AlaHA), presented information on the Partnership with BCBS and Care project; 80 hospitals participated in the central line-associated bloodstream Infection (CLABSI) and catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) CUSP projects. These projects continue to be a part of the Join the Health Journey campaign.

Nadine Crawford, HAI State Coordinator, discussed ongoing site visits to validate 2012 HAI data. Twenty-four visits are scheduled; three hospitals per AlaHA region with a mix of low, medium, and high volume facilities were selected. A validation tool was developed to objectively assess the validations. Immediate feedback is provided to the facility staff following the chart audits. Ms. Crawford presented results of the first three visits; all went very well, the infection preventionists were receptive and appreciative. During these visits, it was determined that facilities were more likely to over-report HAIs.

Kelly Stevens, Epidemiology Division Director, presented the issue of facilities changing their data during the 45-day review and comment period. The Council suggested that ADPH develop a check list for the facilities of what to confirm in the report. The Council discussed when to send preliminary reports to facilities. A motion was made and seconded to have ADPH replace the 6-month HAI data report with a 9-month preliminary HAI data report containing data collected January through September to give each facility a better understanding of their performance nearer to the 12-month mark. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Stevens requested guidance from the Council regarding narrative for the 2012 HAI report. The Council suggested keeping the background narrative, adding information comparing 2011 data to 2012, and keeping the information on pathogens. The Council requested that the format of the data tables remain the same and the overall report be kept as consistent as possible. The timeline was discussed to complete site validations, send individual reports for facility-validations, distribute report to Council for approval, send report to facilities for 45-day comment period, and post the final report for the public. The Council recommended a target completion date of October 1, 2013.

Ms. Stevens asked the Council to discuss whether or not new HAI categories or locations should be added for reporting in 2014. An amendment to the rules is required if changes are made. The Council discussed the pros and cons of additional categories and locations. A motion was made to allow AlaHA to survey the hospitals and bring back to the Council their input during the next council meeting; the motion passed unanimously. Council member, Keith Granger, offered to bring recommendations back in April meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting of the Healthcare Data Advisory Council adjourned at 11:00. The next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 24, 2013.

Date: _____

Thomas M. Miller, M.D., Acting Chairman
Healthcare Data Advisory Council

Date: _____

Nadine Crawford M.S.N., R.N.
State HAI Coordinator