

## Minutes of the Healthcare Data Advisory Council

February 7, 2018

10 a.m.

Suite 1586  
Alabama Department of  
Public Health  
The RSA Tower  
Montgomery, Alabama

### **Members Present**

Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.; Chairman, Acting State Health Officer  
Sam Dean; Alabama Hospital Association  
Brenda Duncan; Alabama Hospital Association  
Beth Goodall; Alabama Hospital Association  
Paul Graham; Business Council of Alabama (via phone)  
Donald Jones; Alabama Hospital Association  
Donna Lawson; Business Council of Alabama (via phone)  
Jeannie O'Malley; Alabama Association of Health Plans

### **Members Absent**

Bernard Camins, M.D.; Alabama Hospital Association  
Keith Cox; State Employees' Insurance Board  
Theresa Fox; Association for Professionals in Infection Control  
Roslyn Jett; Alabama Hospital Association  
Diane Scott; Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan

### **Staff Present**

Kahlia Bell; Communicable Disease  
Nancy Bishop; Pharmacy  
Melanie Chervony; Communicable Disease  
Sherri Davidson; Communicable Disease  
Thresa Dix; Center for Emergency Preparedness  
Leigh Ann Hixon; Communicable Disease  
Amanda Ingram; Communicable Disease  
Tammy Langlois; Communicable Disease  
Miriam Lee; Communicable Disease  
Allison Roebing, D.V.M., M.P.H.; Communicable Disease  
Kelly Stevens; Communicable Disease  
Burnestine Taylor, M.D.; Disease Control  
Cara Williams; Communicable Disease

### **Others Present**

Rosemary Blackmon; Alabama Hospital Association  
Margaret Borders; Alabama Hospital Association

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Healthcare Data Advisory Council was called to order at 10:15 a.m., by Dr. Harris. Roll call was taken; a quorum was not present.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the November 1, 2017, meeting were presented; however, a quorum was not present to approve the Minutes.

**NEW STAFF INTRODUCTION:**

Melanie Chervony was introduced as the new Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Co-Coordinator. Ms. Chervony began employment on February 1, 2018.

**NINE-MONTH REPORTS, HAI:**

Allison Roebling reported that 9-month reports of HAI data were distributed to all hospitals on January 24, 2018. Hospitals are notified monthly regarding whether their data submissions are complete in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

**TARGETED ASSESSMENT FOR PREVENTION (TAP) REPORTS:**

Dr. Roebling discussed TAP reports, which is a feature in NHSN that allows hospitals to pinpoint locations with excess infections in order to lower their standardized infection ratios. A sample report was distributed and discussed. Individual TAP reports on catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) and central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) will be prepared and distributed to each hospital in Alabama. The results will not be shared among hospitals.

Rosemary Blackmon suggested the sample report be presented at the upcoming Quality Assurance Foundation and Birmingham Association for Professionals in Infection Control meeting for input.

**MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT ORGANISM (MDRO) AND *CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE* (*C. DIFF*) MODULE:**

In order to better combat HAIs in Alabama, the HAI program is hoping to expand NHSN monitoring with an optional MDRO and *C. diff* pilot program. Hospitals can voluntarily confer rights on the MDRO methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *C. diff* so that HAI staff can access data and give feedback. Data will not be shared among hospitals. The program will be designed to use data currently submitted to NHSN, therefore, additional work will not be required. Real-time data will allow for timely detection of clusters and better public health response.

**2006-2016 NATIONAL HAI PROGRESS SUMMARY:**

National data from CDC was presented to show decreases in CAUTIs, CLABSIs, and hysterectomy surgical site infections (SSIs) between 2006 and 2016. Additionally, catheter utilization rates and central line utilization rates decreased during this same time period. Alabama's data for CAUTIs and catheter days show similar trends.

**2015 NATIONAL AND STATE HAI DATA REPORT:**

Data from CDC on Alabama's HAI performance, based on the 2015 baseline, showed an even split in state performance as compared to national performance. Alabama hospitals performed worse than the national baseline in regards to CLABSIs, abdominal hysterectomy SSIs, ventilator-associated events, and MRSA bacteremia. Alabama hospitals performed better than the national baseline in regards to CAUTIs, colon surgery SSIs, and *C. diff* events.

**INFECTION CONTROL ASSESSMENT FOR READINESS (ICAR) SURVEYS:**

Tammy Langlois summarized findings of the ICAR surveys of hospitals, long-

term care facilities, dialysis facilities, and outpatient facilities conducted in 2016 and 2017. The surveys help identify gaps in infection prevention so that resources for education and improvement can be offered. Overall, long-term care facilities showed significant room for improvement based on challenges in infrastructure.

**ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE AND STEWARDSHIP:**

Leigh Ann Hixon presented an infographic of ICAR survey results of long-term care facilities for the antimicrobial resistance and stewardship domain. Sixteen facilities conferred rights in NHSN to allow the Alabama Department of Public Health to access the survey data. An Antimicrobial Stewardship meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2018, and will include discussion by guest speakers on Antimicrobial Stewardship in a Small Hospital and Telehealth.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m. The next Council meeting was scheduled for May 2, 2018, at 10 a.m.



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Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H., Chairman  
Healthcare Data Advisory Council