

## **AAVTF Agenda**

June 11, 2019

Montgomery, AL

- Welcome and Introductions
  - Nakema Moss, new Immunization Deputy Director
  - Mary Ann King, Laura Crandell Brown Foundation Executive Director as the new Parent Education Work Group Leaders
- Policy Work Group
  - ImmPRINT Mandate Bill – did not pass
  - Healthcare System Letter
  - CDC HPV Report
  - ACIP Rules
  - AAP and APA Pilot Project
  - Medicaid Pharmacy Billing Status
- Provider Education Work Group
  - AAP ADPH Collaboration
  - Applying for Funds for Partners Meeting
  - Answers from AAP Recommendation Question
- Parent/Adolescent Work Group
  - Adolescent Vaccine Act
  - Back-to-school Checklist
- Data Work Group
  - State Summary Data
  - Brief ACHIA Questionnaire Results
- New meeting series

**Alabama Adolescent Vaccination Task Force (AAVTF)**  
Alabama Department of Public Health  
The RSA Tower, Suite 1586  
Montgomery, AL  
June 11, 2019

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**Meeting Participants**

**Present:**

Cindy Lesinger, Alabama Department of Public Health, Immunization Division  
Dr. Scott Harris, Alabama Department of Public Health, State Health Officer  
Angela Davis, American Cancer Society  
Nakema Moss, Alabama Department of Public Health, Immunization Division  
LaBrenda Marshall, Alabama Department of Education  
Carol Garrett, Alabama Department of Public Health, Cancer Division  
Jennifer Ventress, Alabama Department of Education  
Linda Champion, Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics  
Linda Lee, Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics  
Barbara Schuler, VAX 2 STOP CANCER  
Leanne Bailey, Merck Vaccine Policy  
Dr. Tommy Johnson, Alabama Department of Public Health, Oral Health  
Dr. Stuart Lockwood, Alabama Dental Association  
Liberty Duke, HNH Immunizations

**Phone Attendees\*:**

Kimberly Williams, American Cancer Society  
Dr. Casey Daniel, Mitchell Cancer Institute  
Dr. Jennifer Young Pierce, Mitchell Cancer Institute  
Dr. Burnestine Taylor, Alabama Department of Public Health, Communication Disease  
Justin George, Alabama Department of Public Health, Cancer Division  
Michele Jones, Alabama Department of Public Health, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Robert Moon, Alabama Medicaid  
Dr. Mayra Rodriguez, VCOM-Auburn  
Dr. Tara Bryant, VIVA Health  
Judy Mitchell, Franklin Primary Care Center  
Dr. David Hicks, Jefferson County Department of Health  
Dr. Mark Wilson, Jefferson County Department of Health  
Dr. Brown, Jefferson County Department of Health  
Dr. Isabel Scarinci, UAB  
Chelsea Green, Mitchell Cancer Institute  
Anna Robertson, Mitchell Cancer Institute  
Chris Bryce, GSK  
Krista Bailey, BCBS

Kathy Shuleva, BCBS  
Dr. Mary McIntyre, Alabama Department of Public Health, Chief Medical Officer  
Mary Ann King, Laura Crandall Brown Foundation  
Annerieke Daniel, Human Rights Watch  
Brenda Snook, Children's of Alabama  
Dr. Amy Booth, UAB  
Dr. Jennifer Scalici, USA  
Dr. Morissa Ladinsky, UAB  
Dr. Andrzej Kulczycki, UAB

*\*Note: If you attended the meeting via conference call and your name/organization isn't listed above, please submit an email to [nakema.moss@adph.state.al.us](mailto:nakema.moss@adph.state.al.us) confirming your attendance.*

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## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Cindy Lesinger, Immunization Division Director.

### 2. Welcome and Introductions:

- Nakema Moss was introduced as the new Immunization Deputy Director
- Mary Ann King, Executive Director of the Laura Crandall Brown Foundation, as the new Parent Education Work Group Leader

### 3. Policy Work Group:

- ImmPRINT Mandate Bill-did not pass:
  - Dr. Scott Harris stated that the bill drew some opposition resulting in it not passing. He also mentioned that the No Religious Exemption Bill was submitted simultaneously with the ImmPRINT Bill which further created additional opposition. The Bill never got through the House yet made it to the Senate.
  - Michele Jones stated that the sponsor had a personal reason (no religious exemption allowance) for pushing the bill.
- Healthcare System Letter:
  - Cindy Lesinger described how the letter would be inclusive of all health systems in Alabama.
    - The main goal is asking and encouraging providers and associations to push out the importance of HPV vaccinations
    - Cindy encouraged the Task Force to provide feedback
      - Recommended Feedback: Include more provider specialties in the opening paragraph to read, "Among many Alabama vaccination providers)

- Judy Mitchell mentioned that the Task Force will review the letter and respond within a week.
- CDC HPV Report:
  - Cindy Lesinger provided a brief overview of the report. The report represents the totals doses ordered for all ages including both public and private entities. The country birth cohort is 11 years of age. The results from 2017 to 2018 shows a minimal increase (<700 doses) in ordering which suggests that “We’re not ordering substantially more vaccine which is impacting rates” as stated by Cindy.
  - Stats on the report are available from Comp Cancer.
  - Angela Davis mentioned that the numbers are a sample and not exactly accurate data.
  - Dr. Jennifer Pierce stated the following:
    - NIS Teen data is too high
    - The report is not looking at socially disadvantaged children
    - <19% of counties are not representing what providers are doing
    - Should HPV be compared with Tdap and MCV which would show more accuracy?
    - Current quoting rates are 11-15 years
    - Nationally, rates capture 13-17 years
    - Don’t expect rates to be UTD by 11 years of age
  - Task Force Member: July 1, 2019: For all QI Visits, VFC providers will access age 13 years vaccination rates including missed opportunities.
  - Task Force Member: CDC counts age 13 years as a benchmark (easier to compare). Do we want to start using age 13 as a comparison? We can discuss later.
- ACIP Rules:
  - Cindy Lesinger referenced to the ImmPRINT Bill and further stated that the public and private school language was added. She asked for the Task Force’s feedback concerning the requirement for schools and daycares to pull data directly from ImmPRINT which is the only approved format since 2016.
  - Jennifer Ventress mentioned that the Alabama school system will be getting a new computer system along with an interface with ImmPRINT. Both systems will talk with each other.
    - Powerschool purchased INOW.
    - Cindy wants past vaccines in the new system.
    - Jennifer wants ImmPRINT mandated for their system.
  - Liberty Duke wanted to know if ImmPRINT will match ACIP recommendations? Cindy responded if new ACIP Rules are passed, it will match.
  - Cindy Lesinger mentioned the following:
    - ImmPRINT’s Vaccine Forecaster is based on the ACIP recommendations.
    - The Alabama School Immunization law is not ACIP based.
    - BC/BS Insurance won’t pay for some vaccines given outside of certain recommendations.

- We need to look at what BC/BS and Medicaid pays according vaccine recommendations.
    - Goal: Change guidelines to meet ACIP allowable vaccination ranges (age limits) to decrease missed opportunities and patients not being UTD.
      - Task Force Member: Will vaccination be at a loss or will BC/BS cover it when the child is old enough? Yes.
  - Krista Bailey mentioned the following:
    - BC/BS will expand age ranges for some vaccines (MCV).
    - Quality Metrics are impacted by guidelines.
    - HEDIS standards were also referenced.
    - BC/BS is limited due to Quality Metric Standards (NCQA).
  - No complaints from Medicaid.
  - Cindy stated that she will send the Alabama School Immunization Law/ACIP Rules to ADPH Administration for approval.
  - LaBrenda Marshall mentioned that that McKinney-Vento Act federally protects and allows exemption from State laws for homeless and immigrant populations.
  - A Task Force member discussed dual enrollment for high school/college and mentioned that all Immunization rules remain at the high school level.
- AAP and APA Pilot Project:
  - Cindy Lesinger/Linda Champion/Linda Lee:
    - ADPH is working with AAP and APA to identify 6 counties with no pediatrician.
    - Each group (AAP and APA) will get 3 counties to start an intervention to administer more adolescent vaccines.
    - Update: AAP has selected Cherokee, Cleburne, and Fayette Counties. APA has selected Winston, Choctaw, and Monroe Counties. USA has Clarke County as a separate pharmacy project.
  - Goal: Acquire new VFC providers in counties with low performing HPV rates as well as provide Medicaid enrollment.
  - Will need Dr. Moon's help on enforcing why it's important to get Medicaid and how to get started.
  - Cindy Lesinger mentioned that both AAP and APA are to submit a one page summary of the intention of the project, timeline, and outcomes.
- Medicaid Pharmacy Billing Status:
  - Cindy Lesinger stated that Medicaid needs to finish the coding for pharmacies (VFC) in order to bill for services. Kelly is the contact. Dr. Moon will follow-up.
    - Vaccine Mailout (Draft): available in a month. An email will be generated to provide specifics on adolescent coverage rates (from ImmPRINT).

#### **4. Provider Education Workgroup:**

- AAP ADPH Collaboration:

- Cindy Lesinger mentioned that 50 QI Visits will be performed by IMM staff.
  - As part of the joint Peer to Peer QI Project with AAP, a peer provider assigned by AAP will collaborate IMM staff to conduct VFC QI Visits to improve rates.
  - After July 1, IMM staff will visit with providers showing high patient volumes with low HPV rates.
  - Age 13 years only will be assessed for all VFC QI Visits.
  - The project time frame is 12 months.
- Dr. Jennifer Pierce suggested the following:
  - Arrange a “train the trainer” webinar for the project.
  - Resources are available via the HPV Roundtable Guidelines (use these models for providers).
  - ACS Guides from the National Provider Task Force may also be included in the training.
- Applying for Funds for Partners Meeting:
  - Angela Davis mentioned that she has applied for CDC funding in the amount of \$5,000 for a Task Force partner to partner meeting occurring in the Fall.
    - Funds must be used by December 31, 2019.
    - RFP is due at the end of June.
    - We will need an agenda.
    - We need to focus on methods of engaging Parent Groups (leadership).
    - We need to select a location (possible Huntsville) or a hotspot with low AATF presence.
    - We need to determine who we will target.
    - Vaccine Hesitancy should be included as a topic.
    - We should look for stories of people that have experienced VPD losses.
  - Liberty Duke mentioned that the Top 10 call list of various issues (good marketing) should be included in the meeting.
  - Jennifer Ventress suggested to reference the CDC handouts instead of adding legitimacy to complaints for the meeting.
  - Dr. Booth mentioned that providers don’t have data on raised concerns.
    - Cindy Lesinger responded stating that data should be kept at a minimum as to not overwhelm parents.
- Answers from AAP Recommendation Question:
  - Barbara Schuler presented the VAX 2 STOP Cancer HPV Survey results from the Spring AAP Meeting in Destin, Florida.
    - A live survey was conducted inquiring of how providers recommend HPV vaccinations to patients/parents (how many were

- presumptive, treated HPV vaccine the same as the others, and focused on cancer prevention).
    - 21 Pediatric Physicians participated in the study.
    - Results showed that 10% mentioned one of the types of cancer which was not necessary in the recommendation.
    - Her agency will have a comprehensive social media vaccine campaign
  - Several Task Members responded to the possible barriers experienced by providers in promoting HPV vaccination during medical assessments:
    - Dr. Isabel Scarinci stated that pediatricians aren't dealing with hesitant parents (don't want to deal with the push and pull), do not engage the parents (need to discuss facts), and recommended engaging gynecologists during residency to promote HPV vaccination as well as publish HPV vaccine recommendations in gynecology journals.
    - Dr. Jennifer Young Pierce suggested getting Ob/Gyns involved as well.
      - Cindy Lesinger mentioned that Alabama has 10 VFC Ob/Gyn providers.
      - Dr. Pierce will provide HPV training to the ACOG, USA, and UAB Conferences.

## 5. Parent/Adolescent Work Group

- Adolescent Vaccine Act:
  - Mary Ann King mentioned that the Adolescent Vaccine Act is ready for review
    - Goal of the Act is to provide information to parents in both electronic and print form for Tdap, HPV, and MCV.
    - She hosted an Advocacy Day in April including model legislation geared towards educating parents.
    - Act will be sent out for review and comments as well as sent to lobbyists for review and changes.
    - Cindy Lesinger has shared the Act internally.
  - Jennifer Ventress stated that most parent information goes in registration packets and on websites for schools.
- Back-to-school Checklist
  - Mary Ann King is spearheading this effort.
    - She mentioned that there were no meetings or calls this week.
    - The group will need a second call.
    - The focus will be on parents.
    - She recommends giving adolescents a voice and allow them to advocate for themselves via a poster contest (why vaccinate or why vaccines are important as a theme)

- Liberty Duke mentioned giving a \$1,000 prize to adolescents who create a project for vaccination.
  - Students can be self-advocates.
  - HNH will provide the incentive for the winning school (ex. social media campaign, etc.)
- Cindy Lesinger mentioned that she has an internal request for an adolescent flyer (targeting adolescents in the catch-up schedule in order to increase HPV rates).
- A Task Force Member recommended getting a panel of adolescents to gauge their thoughts on what's needed and to create an Adolescent Focus Group with awards and incentives similar to the UAB group.

## **6. Data Work Group**

- State Summary Data
  - Dr. Casey Daniel
    - Due to time constraints, this section was not discussed.
      - The State Summary Data will be added to the AAVT section of the ADPH webpage for viewing.  
(<http://alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/task-force.html>)
- ACHIA Survey Results
  - Krista Bailey mentioned the survey which focused on adolescent well-care visits, policies, and obstacles regarding HPV vaccinations.
    - The ACHIA Survey Results will be added to the AAVTF section of the ADPH webpage for viewing.  
(<http://alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/task-force.html>)

## **7. New Meeting Series**

- Cindy Lesinger mentioned that a poll will be conducted to determine the best meeting times and dates for any meetings as well as setting up meeting dates for 2020.

## **8. Adjournment**

- Cindy Lesinger adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm.