

Minutes of Healthcare Data Advisory Council

December 7, 2016

10:00 a.m.

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

Members Present

Mary McIntyre, M.D.; Acting Chairman, Deputy Director of Medical Affairs

Keith Cox, C.P.A.; State Employees' Insurance Board

Paul Graham, C.P.A.; Business Council of Alabama

Donald Jones; Alabama Hospital Association

Donna Lawson, R.N., M.B.A., M.S.; Business Council of Alabama

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

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

Susan Warren; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama

Members Absent

Beth Anderson; Alabama Hospital Association

Brenda Duncan; Alabama Hospital Association

Keith Granger; Alabama Hospital Association

Roslyn Jett; Alabama Hospital Association

Elliott Lipinsky; Governor's Consumer

Patty Miller; Alabama Hospital Association

Michael O'Malley; Alabama Association of Health Plans

Diane Scott; Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan

Staff Present

Kahlia Bell; Communicable Disease

Charlie Crawford; Communicable Disease

Sherri Davidson; Communicable Disease

Teresa Dix; Center for Emergency Preparedness

Jamey Durham, Professional Support Services

W. T. Geary; Health Provider Standards
Tammy Langlois; Communicable Disease
Mary McIntyre; Disease Control & Prevention
Travis Redford; Communicable Disease
Allison Roebing; Communicable Disease
Kelly Stevens; Communicable Disease
Harrison Wallace; Communicable Disease

Organizations Present

Teresa Fox; Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation

CALL TO ORDER:

The Healthcare Data Advisory Council was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Dr. McIntyre. Roll call was taken and a quorum was not present.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes from the December 11, 2015 and June 29, 2016 meetings were presented, but could not be considered because a quorum was not present.

2015 HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS (HAI) REPORT:

The 2015 Healthcare-associated Infections (HAI) Report was distributed for review, and findings were summarized by HAI Epidemiologists, Travis Redford and Allison Roebing. The epidemiologists highlighted differences between the 45-day review and the final data presented in the report. In particular, the final report included only deep-level surgical site infections (SSIs), while previous data had included these and superficial SSIs. Healthcare facilities will be notified of changes prior to public release of the report.

The epidemiologists also addressed reporting issues from Greene County Hospital, which had incomplete catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) data in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), the online HAI reporting system. Greene Hospital could not remedy the data submission because no current staff members had NHSN access, however, the epidemiologists were able to accept the data manually. Because the data is not in NHSN, their numbers are not included in standardized infection ratio (SIR) calculations.

Lastly, the Council was notified of upcoming changes in the national baseline data in NHSN. Starting in 2016, standardized infection ratios (SIRs) can be calculated using the current 2008/2009 baseline data or the new 2015 baseline data. In 2017, all SIRs will need to be calculated exclusively using the new 2015 baseline. When SIRs are calculated using the new baseline data, they will not be comparable to SIRs calculated with the old baseline. The Council expressed interest in showing multiple years of data with the new baseline so that multi-year comparisons can be made in 2017 when the new baseline is used.

HAI FACILITY VALIDATION VISITS:

Tammy Langlois described the validation process to review 2015 central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) data and presented a summary of findings. Visits were made to 22 hospitals, and facilities were selected and evaluated using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) HAI Validation Tool Kit. Staff explained that for validations performed for 2016 data, although the CDC Validation Tool Kit will be used to validate data, it will not be used to select facilities to be validated. Instead the hospital selection process will focus on hospitals with “Worse” performances and on hospitals that have not received validation visits for the past consecutive two years.

EBOLA AND SERIOUS INFECTIOUS DISEASES READINESS PROGRAM - HOSPITAL ASSESSMENTS:

Ms. Langlois provided information on the progress of hospital assessments for hospitals in Alabama that volunteered to serve as Ebola Assessment Hospitals. Public Health teams conducted visits to the three volunteer hospitals: Huntsville Hospital, the University of Alabama in Birmingham Hospital, and USA Medical Center in Mobile. When the assessment process is completed, these hospitals will be prepared to receive suspect Ebola (or other serious infectious disease) patients, isolate, and conduct preliminary tests. It is anticipated that all three hospitals will receive approval to be named Ebola Assessment Hospitals by December 31, 2016, and a public announcement will be scheduled in January of 2017.

INFECTION CONTROL ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE (ICAR) SURVEYS:

Ms. Langlois is responsible for conducting Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) surveys with healthcare facilities throughout the state. The surveys will help measure infection control and prevention readiness in hospitals, long-term care, hemodialysis, and outpatient centers. ICAR

surveys were conducted with 22 hospitals during HAI data validation visits. A few surveys have been completed with nursing homes.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

The Council discussed future meeting times and dates in an effort to increase attendance. The first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am was the expressed, preferred date and time. Ms. Stevens will check with Administration to schedule the meetings and hold the Board room.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting of the Healthcare Data Advisory Council adjourned at 11:06 a.m. The next Council meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2017.

Date: _____

Mary McIntyre, M.D., Acting Chairman
Healthcare Data Advisory Council