

Utah Health Data Committee (HDC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 15, 2022

3:00 PM:

The meeting was called to order by HDC Vice-Chair, Charles Hawley.

Members attended virtually and via phone. Pursuant to the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, an anchor location was available at the Cannon Health Building, room 125. Access information was posted on the Utah Public Notice Website.

The meeting was scheduled from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members Present: Charles Hawley, Jim Bradshaw, Patrice Hirning, Stephen Neeleman, Laura Summers, Tanji Northrup, Susan Longfield, David Crockett, Alan Ormsby, David Cook

Members Absent: Jeffrey Eason, Curtis Newman, Terri Nehorai, Stephen Foxley, Russell Trujillo

Staff Present: Lori Savoie, Kyle Lunt, David Arcilesi, Mike Martin, Bri Murphy, Sydney Groesbeck, Kimberly Partain McNamara, Ryan Christenson, Julie Olson

Guests Present: Joseph Delli Gatti

1. Welcome

Charles Hawley, HDC Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of new Executive Secretary – Lori Savoie

A motion to approve Lori Savoie as the new Executive Secretary for the HDC was made by David Cook; the motion was seconded by Steve Neeleman. The motion passed with a vote of 9-0-0.

Yeas - 9

Charles Hawley
Susan Longfield
Jim Bradshaw
Patrice Hirning
Stephen Neeleman
Laura Summers
Tanji Northrup
David Crockett
Alan Ormsby

Nays - 0

Abstaining-0

Not Present

Jeffrey Eason
Curtis Newman
Stephen Foxley
Terri Nehorai
Russell Trujillo

3. Approval of September 20, 2022 Minutes

A motion to adopt the 09/20/22 HDC Minutes was made by David Cook; the motion was seconded by Patrice Hirning. The motion passed with a vote of 9-0-0.

Yeas - 9

Charles Hawley
Susan Longfield
Jim Bradshaw
Patrice Hirning
Stephen Neeleman
Laura Summers
Tanji Northrup
David Crockett
Alan Ormsby

Nays - 0

Abstaining-0

Not Present

Jeffrey Eason
Curtis Newman
Stephen Foxley
Terri Nehorai
Russell Trujillo

HIA staff update:

David Cook asked for clarification on names and staff changes for the Office of Healthcare Statistics. Lori informed the Committee that the office is now called Healthcare Information and Analysis. The main level is Data Systems and Evaluation, then the Office of Research and Evaluation, and then Healthcare Information and Analysis. Healthcare Statistics is now considered a program. Lori Savoie has assumed Carl Letamendi's prior position as Bureau Director. The Analytics Lead position, vacated by Brantley Scott, will be filled within the next week or two.

Sub-Committee Reports

a. Transparency Advisory Group (TAG)

Alan Ormsby reported that the TAG committee met during the last part of October. The subcommittee received an update on databytes and progress on the Clinic Quality Comparison report. The group is committed to being sure that when that report ready to go, that it will be put into the hands of the people who need to see it and trying to get those databytes into the hands of consumers wherever possible.

b. Data Use Sub-Committee (DUS)

Mike Martin reported that the subcommittee met one time since the last HDC meeting. They did consider one application, an amendment from the University of Utah to a longstanding project that was originally approved by DUS - this amendment was on family neighborhoods and intergenerational transmission of type 2 diabetes risk. What the researcher is trying to do is to estimate counts and costs of type 2 diabetes. Within this amendment a major hurdle is requesting the Medicaid population. Therefore, the requestor has submitted a request for Medicaid data, which has been forwarded to the Medicaid personnel and is under review right now.

Stephen Neeleman suggested the implementation of a process where researchers come back and report on how they benefitted from their data use, including what they were able to publish, etc.

c. Utah Payers Advisory Subcommittee (UPAS)

Ryan Christenson reported that the subcommittee met on November 2. The Health Waste Calculator Report was finished up and released. They are moving ahead with a DSG (data submittal guide) update and moving toward having that fully implemented by March of next year.

d. Utah Healthcare Facilities Subcommittee (UHFS)

Jim Bradshaw, UHFS Chair, reported that the sub-committee met in early November.

One of the things the UHFS has done is to review how facilities data is providing value in the community via the state. So, the UHFS reviewed a couple of the areas recently where data has been utilized for either public reporting or support of community-based analytics. That included community health needs assessment work that utilized the hospital data and looking at selected birth outcomes during covid-19 pandemic. There was also work done regarding body mass index, which is included in the data set that submitted its impact on certain types of cancer. Finally, health community profiling work was done specific to the tribal communities in Utah. The data is being leveraged by staff and by the Department of Health for purposes to benefit the community. The UHFS committee continues to have conversation around definitions around ambulatory surgical case submission and that data that is then provided in the public release files associated with ambulatory surgery.

The UHFS continues to define a national standard that would include ambulatory surgery so that there's no confusion both on the submission and the data user side around what justifies assignment as an ambulatory surgical case. It is looking forward to the update on the DSG for the facilities as well as the APCD, updating some of the language to clarify ambulatory surgery definition to our data submitters.

Charles Hawley asked if the standard definition for the ambulatory surgery ought to be shared with either ARC or relevant data standards maintenance organizations. Ryan clarified that the basis for this definition was CMS's regulation that determines payment or non-payment of ambulatory surgeries.

New Business

4. Call for nominations for Vice-Chair

Charles explained that Jeffrey Eason's term as chair is ending. Charles will step up to the position of Chair of the HDC – he is currently the Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair position is a one-year commitment and anybody that is interested is to nominate themselves or accept a nomination from another person. The position includes meeting with the HDC Executive

Committee (15-20 minutes) before each HDC meeting in order to set the agenda. HDC elected officer terms are one year, but can be eligible for reelection.

New HDC members, David Crockett and Susan Longfield, were welcomed to the Committee.

Stephen Neeleman nominated Laura Summers who had to decline, due to a new baby and balancing other activities as well.

Susan Longfield expressed interest in getting some additional information to learn the roles of the committee and its subcommittees.

There was a nomination by David Cook of Stephen Foxley, who was not in attendance.

5. Discussion – Health Waste Calculator Report – Ryan Christenson

A pre-recorded presentation of the Health Waste Calculator Report was given by Brantley Scott at the NAHDO conference in October. Ryan shared a slide of HDC Expectations regarding the Health Waste Calculator Report to the Committee. They include 1) Make recommendations for action and opportunities for improvement based on the results, 2) Make recommendations on methods to bring into alignment the various healthcare quality metrics different entities in the state use. 3) Identify priority issues and recommendations to include in an annual report. The report has been provided to the Health and Human Services Subcommittee and may be discussed at some point in the legislative session. Also, databytes are published on occasion and there might be some different aspects of the Health Waste Calculator report that could be highlighted through those data bytes.

David Cook mentioned pairing data from the report with a national campaign, such as Choosing Wisely to bring the data/information to the consumer. The data could also be used as a benchmark against other states in the country to see where we sit nationally or regionally with our waste in Utah. Charles Hawley added that the states of Virginia, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington all produce some form of a health waste calculator that we could compare against. A possible funding stream or entity that takes on “choose wisely” and does some outreach with the data would be highly beneficial.

Lori Savoie added that at the next legislative session, it will be determined whether we are going to be asked to continue to do the report or not, and then find the associated funding with that.

When asked about Milliman’s role in the report, Ryan explained that they have a health waste calculator, a tool for identifying claims that include potentially wasteful services. The HIA staff then used enhancements to the output from that tool, pinpointing the actual services that are wasteful as opposed to services that get bundled. This year’s report did not have to be built from scratch as there was a good amount of updating that could be done from the last year’s report.

Stephen Neeleman asked if health plans look at the health waste calculator to target areas where there is wasteful spending. Tanji Northrup added that some areas that are considered wasteful are required by federal law to be included in the preventive care benefit. Stephen suggested that staff could look at the health waste calculator, take the highest ranking areas, and then look and see if they fall into the federal preventive care mandate and if they don't, then those are the areas that could be targeted.

6. National Awareness

Charles mentioned the recent NAHDO in addition to a meeting on November 17 with state APCD program leaders where they'll discuss what comes next and some of the themes of that conference. The Kaiser Family Foundation published the 2022 Employer Health Benefits Survey recently and that report talks about self-funded employers and their lack of awareness of APCDs. The third version of the Common Data Layout will be published in the next month – a webinar was held to debut this version. Lastly, the APCD Council is going to publish a paper that speaks to the collection of social determinants of health and demographic data in the standard insurance claim life cycle. Charles will share that paper when it is posted to the website.

7. Nominations for Vice Chair

With no nominations, Charles and Lori will touch base and come up with an action plan regarding Vice Chair.

8. Public Comment

No public comment.

9. Adjourn

Alan Ormsby motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Patrice Hirning. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 (Virtual)