**Utah Health Data Committee (HDC) Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

3:00 PM:

The meeting was called to order by HDC 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, Stephen Foxley, David Crockett, Jeffrey Eason, Laura Summers, Alan Ormsby, David Cook, Susan Longfield

**Members Absent**: Patrice Hirning, Curtis Newman, Terri Nehorai, Russell Trujillo, Stephen Neeleman, Tanji Northrup

**Staff Present**: Lori Savoie, Kyle Lunt, David Arcilesi, Mike Martin, Bri Murphy, Sydney Groesbeck, Kimberly Partain McNamara, Ryan Christenson, Julie Olson, Samuel Burge, Qing Xiao, Matthew Rose, Matt Cottrell

**Guests Present**: Stephanie Ebert

1. **Welcome**

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

**2. Approval of January 17, 20232 Minutes**

*Due to the lack of a quorum at one given time, the 1/17/23 minutes were not approved at this meeting.*

**Sub-Committee Reports**

1. **Transparency Advisory Group (TAG)**

Alan Ormsby reported that the TAG committee did not meet in February, but did meet in January. The primary focus of that meeting was talking about goals for the year. The first three goals are similar to last year’s. The fourth goal is doing more to disseminate information from reports that are produced from the office – the details on the plan for doing that dissemination are still being discussed.

1. **Data Use Sub-Committee (DUS)**

Mike Martin reported that the Data Use Sub-Committee have met twice since the last HDC meeting. They reviewed five applications from the University of Utah. All five were approved. Two of the studies were for APCD data and three were for data from the Health Care Facilities Database.

1. **Utah Payers Advisory Subcommittee (UPAS)**

Stephen Foxley reported that they have not met since the last meeting. The revised DSG 4.1 did go live on March 1.

1. **Utah Healthcare Facilities Subcommittee (UHFS)**

David Crockett reported that Utah Healthcare Facilities Subcommittee met on February 2. Since the meetings are held quarterly, the next meeting is scheduled for May 2.

**New Business**

1. **Legislative Updates – Lori Savoie**

* Continuation of Health Waste Calculator Report – this bill is continued for one more year and will be repealed at the end of this calendar year. There may be continued conversation about the possibility of continuing the report after it is no longer mandated.
* Health Bill 487 - Sickle Cell Disease and requiring the Division of Population Health to work with the Utah Medicaid Program, the Health Disparities Program, as well as the HDC to review and develop recommendations on how to improve the events related to the surveillance treatment and diagnosis of sickle cell disease. Utah Population Health is then required to report back their recommendations to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee before July 1, 2024. The involvement of the HDC has not been determined, but it may be helping in the standardization of the collection of data. There is a related grant that focuses on the sickle cell data collection program, looking to create a national database for the disease.
* Sunset Review for HDC – This review is coming up on July 1, 2023.
* Codification of 26-33b – All codes from the Department of Health and Department of Human Services were combined to this code. 26-33a was broken into two different parts of the overarching statute. Part 4 is the Board of Commissions where the definition and requirements of the HDC are outlined. Part 5 is the actual Health Data Authority Act. The final statutes will be sent out when they go into effect on July 1, 2023.

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**4. Future Marketing Outreach Regarding Data – Lori Savoie**

Lori asked the committee members how they could help identify paths for the dissemination of reports and data that are produced by HCS staff.

* Stephen Foxley suggested working with the Utah Health Insurance Association which meets once a month in addition to the Utah Health Collaborative. There is also the State of Reform Conference coming up that has a technology track. Stephen offered to follow up with specific contact names.
* David Cook suggested the American Academy of Family Practice for Utah – Dr. Woolsey was a past chair of that group. They have an annual conference and do a big piece with family practice residents. He also mentioned reaching out to the Clinical Transitional Science at the University of Utah. The Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) has an HCCN which is the data hub for Primary Care Associations and some new data streams.
* Charles added the Utah Hospital Association, in the past, has been a direct hospital discharge data user and demonstrated some capacity to host this data internally. Charles also recommended reaching out to other universities, including academic health centers, in the state.
* Lori also asked for input on how to collaborate with the Utah Medical Association and how that organization could benefit from our data. There is an institutional licensing agreement with the University of Utah that makes the data available to U of U researchers – the cost is covered by that license.
* Laura added that a push at the University might be made to make sure researchers are aware of the data and opportunity of the institutional licensing agreement at the U. Laura added that a myriad of other health associations would be interested as well. She also suggested presenting at the Rural Health Association of Utah Conference in November or presenting at a newsmaker breakfast at Gardner Institute.

**6. Presentation: Use of APCD Data, Stefanie Ebelt, Emory University**

Stefanie Ebelt presented “Utah Health Data in Studies of Environmental Exposures & Health”

A summary of the presentation is as follows:

• ENVISION study utilizes administrative health data like those offered by Utah’s Healthcare Facility Database

• We observe positive associations between short-term exposure to ambient air pollutants and increased rates of ED visits for asthma, and other outcomes

• For asthma, children and adolescents may be particularly vulnerable

• Lungs and immune systems not fully developed

• Breathe more air per unit body weight and more active than adults

• Peripheral airways smaller than adults, inflammation can lead to relatively greater airway obstruction

• Ongoing work in these studies:

• Emerging exposures (dust storms, wildfires), susceptible

Background Information on Data Request:

• Data Source: Utah Department of Health and Human Services

• Request to Office of Health Care Statistics • Data Application #1447

• Submitted February 2019

• Data received April 2019

• Research-level dataset of emergency department (ED) visit and inpatient data

• From Healthcare Facility Database

• Study Period: 2005-2016

• Variables of interest: • Most important: facility, ZIP code of residence

ENVISION Air Pollution & Asthma Study

• Study period: 2005-2014

• Study areas: 30 miles around 53 pre-selected EPA air stations

• Asthma ED visits, based on primary diagnosis code of ICD-9 493 (N = 3,190,333 visits)

• Linked with daily air pollution data from ground observations and CMAQ simulations

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| **7. Public Comment**  No public comment.  **8. Adjourn** |  |  |

*A motion was made by Stephen Foxley to adjourn the meeting. There were no objections.*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 (Virtual)*