

Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

December 4, 2019

Council members present: Ms. Fay Donohue, Vice Chair; Ms. Laura Adams; Mr. Rob Birmingham, Office of the State Auditor; Mr. Eric Gold, Office of the Attorney General; Undersecretary Lauren Peters, designee of Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Ms. Cassandra Roeder, designee of Secretary Michael Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Dr. Meredith Rosenthal; Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission; and Mr. Matthew Venno, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance.

Noting the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

I. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Campbell began his presentation to the Council discussing CHIA's *Annual Report on the Performance of the Massachusetts Health Care System*. He walked the Council members through the main key findings of the report, particularly the measurement of total health care expenditures in the Commonwealth. A conversation ensued on other report findings. Mr. Campbell also briefly discussed the subsequent Cost Trends Hearing hosted by the Health Policy Commission.

He then moved to review with the Council several pieces of health care legislation that is under discussion in Massachusetts. Ms. Peters in further detail explained several core components of the proposed legislation, including an increased data collection role by CHIA. The Council continued to discuss various aspects of the legislation and their respective possible impact on CHIA.

Mr. Campbell updated the Council members of CHIA's data transparency competition. Mr. Campbell explained that there were over 20 applicants, many of them students. Eventually the competition was narrowed down to six teams under consideration, with winners expected to be announced in December.

Mr. Campbell also highlighted the recent publication of CHIA's latest *Behavioral Health and Readmissions in Massachusetts Acute Care Hospitals* report, emphasizing that the report was produced using CHIA's Case Mix dataset. The Council proceeded to briefly discuss the inclusion of behavioral health data in Case Mix. Mr. Campbell then concluded his presentation.

II. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES [VOTE]

At 2:05, Ms. Donohue called for approval of the meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

III. APCD ENHANCEMENT UPDATE

Deb Schiel, Deputy Executive Director of Analytics, proceeded to provide the Council with an update on the APCD enhancement project. Ms. Schiel explained the current status of the project, noting that the project is three to four months behind schedule. She noted that several components of the project are happening concurrently, however. Ms. Schiel and the Council members discussed the status of several core components of the project. Overall, she expressed to the Council that the project is appropriately proceeding.

IV. CHIA'S DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY PROTOCOLS

After concluding the discussion on the e-APCD project, Dianne McCarthy, CHIA's General Counsel, presented to the Council on CHIA's data privacy and security protocols. Before beginning her presentation. Ms. McCarthy noted with appreciation that Dr. Rosenthal had worked with CHIA to discuss and improve its audit procedures. Ms. McCarthy also explained to the Council that Kathy Hines, Senior Director, had presented on CHIA's behalf at the recently held National Association of Health Data Organization's (NAHDO) conference, where she highlighted CHIA's data de-identification process. Ms. McCarthy then proceeded to walk the Council through her presentation, explaining that these procedures

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under discussion mostly apply to the Case Mix and APCD datasets only. She walked the Council through its various procedures for protecting CHIA's data, including data security training and desk audits for staff. A discussion ensued with the Council on various stress tests that CHIA could perform, and whether CHIA has a crisis response plan. The Council members also discussed whether data analysis was impeded by the various data hashing and de-identification that CHIA performed. Ms. McCarthy answered that CHIA data analytics was largely unimpeded by security protocols.

V. CLOSING

Noting the time, Ms. Donohue moved to conclude the meeting. Ms. Donohue noted that the Council would like updates on health care-related legislation, the data transparency challenge, the e-APCD, as well as CHIA's analytic agenda at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.