

Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

March 26, 2019

Council members present: Ms. Fay Donohue, Vice Chair; Ms. Laura Adams; Ms. Alicia B. Curran; Mr. Eric Gold, Office of the Attorney General; Ms. Iya Khalil; Ms. Lauren Peters, designee of Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Dr. Meredith Rosenthal; and Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission; Mr. Matthew Veno, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance.

Noting the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES [VOTE]

Ms. Donohue, chairing the meeting, called for the approval of the previous meeting's minutes. Executive Director Seltz made a motion to approve the minutes, which Mr. Gold seconded. The Council unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

II. FINANCE UPDATE

Mr. Campbell briefly provided the Council with an update on agency finances, noting that CHIA has continued to reduce its spending rate. Ms. Peters also added for the Council's consideration that CHIA's budget from the Commonwealth may be impacted by new leadership in the Massachusetts state legislature.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Campbell began his presentation by providing a brief overview of CHIA's budget history and the adjustments that were made to accommodate the required transfer to the Community Hospital Reinvestment Trust Fund. Mr. Seltz noted that the decrease in funds had not negatively impacted the quality of CHIA's work. Mr. Campbell also mentioned that he intends to focus on expanding CHIA's analytic responsibilities.

IV. APCD ENHANCEMENT UPDATE

Mr. Campbell then moved to present to the Council the details behind CHIA's APCD enhancement project. CHIA staff Mike Cocchi, Deputy Executive Director of Data Operations, as well as Deb Schiel, Deputy Executive Director of Analytics, were invited to present details on the project. Mr. Cocchi and Ms. Schiel began by walking the Council through the timeline of the enhancement project, explaining that some dates are still soft or unknown due to its complexity and length.

Ms. Schiel explained to the Council the types of enhancements that CHIA hopes to achieve through the project, including the standardization of the data, data enhancements, and an online interactive portal. Mr. Cocchi and Ms. Schiel also described the current limitations of the APCD and why the enhancements are necessary. Mr. Seltz noted the APCD in its current state requires extensive work by the data recipient to analyze the data and make it usable, explaining that the Health Policy Commission invests heavily in the data after receiving an extract from CHIA. The Council further discussed the possibility to receive 42 CFR Part 2 data and self-insured data again in the future.

The Council then learned that Truven Health Analytics was the chosen vendor for this project, which has since been obtained by IBM Health Watson. Ms. Schiel walked the Council through the vendor solution proposed by IBM Health Watson. The Council discussed the proposed enhancements and sought further details. Mr. Cocchi and Ms. Schiel also explained the development of the master patient index and its capabilities as well as the eventual data linkage between the APCD and Case Mix datasets.

In seeking to understand the enhancement project and its process, Ms. Peters suggested that CHIA and the vendor create success measures by which the agency can track progress. Council members also asked about how data extracts will be received in the future and how often the data will be made available

**Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council
March 26, 2019**

to recipients. Mr. Cocchi explained that for the time being data extracts will continue to be shipped directly to applicants, but that accessing the data through an online portal is eventually expected. He also explained that data will be accessible faster than it is currently with an anticipated six-month lag period, including claims run-out.

Council members expressed interest in CHIA's current data security policies. Mr. Cocchi explained that CHIA is working to remove all personally identifiable information (PII) from any data that it houses, including the APCD. This exclusion of PII will also apply to any data that is involved in linkage projects. It was asked that CHIA provide even greater detail on its security procedures in the next Council meeting.

When asked, Ms. Schiel and Mr. Cocchi explained that all health plan data will be included in the enhancement project, although some may eventually be excluded if there are data quality concerns. The project will also include the previous five years' worth of data, plus the years received going forward.

Ms. Donohue concluded the discussion by summarizing the key items for the Council. She noted the following topic areas: the need to define the measures of success for the enhancement project; developing a good working relationship with the chosen vendor, Truven, as well as the IBM Watson Health; coordinating across state agencies for the success of the project; further information on CHIA's data privacy policies and procedures; and a requested update on the Massachusetts CompareCare website.

V. CHIA PUBLICATIONS OVERVIEW

Mr. Campbell concluded the meeting by walking the Council through CHIA's recent and upcoming publications and reports.

VI. CLOSING

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.