

**Healthcare Associated Infections
Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

March 26, 2014



Present: Lauren Backman, Dale Cunningham, Louise-Marie Dembry, Carol Dietz, Wendy Furniss, Allison Hong, Patricia Kelamer, Diana Kelly, Cindy Kohan, Alessandra Litro, Richard Melchreit, Olivia Pep

Phone Attendees: Laurie Brentlinger,

Next meeting: Wednesday May 7, 2014 Location: TBD

Call to Order: Richard Melchreit called the meeting to order at 9:04 am

Review and approval of prior advisory Committee meeting minutes (11/06/13): A motion was made to accept the minutes from the 11/06/13 meeting. The minutes were accepted as is.

2012 National HAI Report: The annual national HAI Progress Report consists of national and state-by-state summaries of healthcare-associated infections. Progress is measured using the standardized infection ratio (SIR), a summary statistic used to track HAI prevention progress over time. The individual state progress reports include infection-specific SIRs, location-specific SIRs, and efforts states are taking to prevent HAIs. This year, for the first time, the national report includes individual state progress profiles. The report was discussed and it can be accessed on CDC's website at the following link <http://www.cdc.gov/HAI/pdfs/progress-report/hai-progress-report.pdf>

Update on Data Validation: External validation is almost completed, only two hospitals remain. The HAIs under review are: CAUTI, CLABSI, SSI: COLO & HYST. DPH has developed validation protocols for CAUT and SSI which are being validated for the first time this year (2012 data is under validation). CLABSI are being reviewed using the protocol we have used in the past, which allows for comparison over time. Preliminary data was shared with the committee.

Education Activities: Lauren Backman informed the Committee that trainings for hospital IPs on the new NHSN definitions will take place in the late March and April 2014. The sessions are full. Preliminary 2012 Connecticut validation results, and CMS , and NHSN updates will be discussed.

Committee Vacancy: DPH staff was seeking additional recommendations to send to the Commissioner's office to fill the Committee vacancy. The Commissioner chose Lynne Garner from the Donoghue Foundation to fill the public member vacancy. However, the position of voting member representing the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) is also vacant at this time. The DPH has contacted the CSMS and have asked them to nominate a candidate to fill the vacancy.

New Committee Structure: DPH staff presented a proposed new advisory structure that will roll out in 2014. The DPH took the recommendations of the Committee at the last meeting and condensed the committees into three groups. The new group structure was reviewed again with the Committee and discussed. The Committee agreed to try the new structure out for a year to determine if this structure will work in our state. The DPH will start to convene the new groups in the summer of 2014.

CT HAI Component of the State Health Improvement Plan: The DPH created a statewide health improvement plan that provides a blueprint for action to address some of Connecticut's most challenging health issues which included healthcare associated infections. The plan helps to promote *Healthy Connecticut 2020*, the DPH plan for improving the health of Connecticut residents by the end of 2020. The plan provides a common framework for organizations to use in leveraging resources, engaging partners, and identifying their own priorities and strategies for collective action. The DPH will work with partners and stakeholders to work on the objectives in the plan. Some of the objectives include maintaining and enhance the State's public reporting infrastructure for healthcare associated infections, reducing the rate of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI's) and *Clostridium difficile* infections in Long Term Care facilities, reducing the rate of central line-associated bloodstream Infections (CLABSI's) in Hemodialysis facilities, and reducing the number of surgical site infections (SSI's) in Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC's).

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 am

The next HAI Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on May 7th, 2014 from 9-11 at a location to be determined.