



Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Board Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2019

Board Members Present	Board Members Present (via Phone)	ACHI/AID Staff Present
Cal Kellogg Chad Aduddell Billy Roehrenbeck Joe Thompson Craig Wilson Brad Martin John Carter Leisa Carter	Jill Arnold Jeff Brinsfield Austin Porter John Ryan Doug Weeks	Kenley Money Jennifer Wessel John Lyon Johanna Parsons

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Cal Kellogg called the meeting to order at approximately 3:04 p.m. Johanna Parsons recorded the minutes.

II. Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2019 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Consent Form Template

Craig Wilson presented the board with two proposed templates for consent-for-re-identification forms. The first template is titled Opt-In Consent form for Health Information and is proposed for use by clinical management. The second template is titled Research Authorization Opt-In Consent for Health information and is proposed for use by researchers. Mr. Wilson discussed the templates. Mr. Kellogg made a motion to adopt the Opt-In Consent Form for Health Information template, and the motion was approved.

Mr. Kellogg made the motion to adopt the Research Authorization Opt-In Consent for Health Information as a template with two changes to the wording: change the word “can” to “may” on the first page and remove the word “patient” in front of date of birth on the second page. The motion was approved.

Mr. Wilson discussed decision points for the data use agreement (DUA):

1. Data requestors using data for clinical management will be provided with all historical data for those individuals from whom consent has been obtained.
2. Consent will dissolve if there is no utilization of the requestor or affiliated providers within 3 years from date of consent. This provision will be in the DUA.
3. Data requestor will include an annual notice of continued use of APCD data for an individual, which may be included in a more comprehensive privacy notice.
4. The data requestor will establish a firewall to exclude employees/contractors from APCD data access so that data is used for only clinical management.
5. Payment data will be included for an individual in categories in the aggregate.
6. Consent forms and data use/access by employees/contractors will be subject to audit, and the APCD may be used, should AID/ACHI decide to do so, for utilization audit on consent.

IV. ACCN Data Request

Mr. Wilson suggested approving the Arkansas Children’s Care Network request contingent upon the adoption of the consent form template, incorporation of the DUA decision points, and an update to the three-year project period to reflect the most recent dates. Mr. Kellogg made a motion to approve ACCN application with the suggested changes. The motion was made and unanimously approved.

V. Updates on Data Use

Mr. Wilson thanked the board for its review of the additional outputs that ACHI has produced as part of a multi-state CDC project regarding developmentally disabled populations. He also said that recently a data transfer was executed to the Arkansas Insurance Department that includes Department of Health data that are now appended to the APCD and linked back to the Department of Health. Austin Porter discussed potential uses of the data within the Department of Health.

VI. Data Submission/DSG Update

Kenley Money stated that one task the board does annually is to review changes to the data submission guide. This year the carriers were not required to make any changes. In June, the APCD was updated with new data through December 2018. The APCD now has six years of data.

VII. Environmental Updates

a. PBM Analysis

Mr. Wilson stated that work is continuing with pharmacies to collect data. The Insurance Department is working to link rebates to pharmacy benefit managers. PBMs have been engaged in four independent pharmacies, but no discernable patterns have been established. The Insurance Department is hoping to validate what the pharmacies were paid through information in the APCD.

In June, a Bi/Partisan bill called the Lower Health Care Cost Act 2019 was introduced in Congress. The bill would address surprise billing and attempt to establish a national APCD. Mr. Wilson said there is a separate bill in the house that is similar.

b. NAHDO Conference

The NAHDO conference will be November 6-8, 2019, in Little Rock. Dr. Joe Thompson and Ms. Money are program committee chairs. All members of the board are invited. The APCD council will attend as well.

VIII. Review of Bylaws

Mr. Wilson asked the board to focus attention on including a conflict of interest provision in the by-laws at the next meeting. Mr. Wilson stated that a few examples of language regarding the conflict of interest will be provided at the next meeting.

In closing, Mr. Wilson announced to the board there would be nominations for chair and vice-chair at next meeting.

IX. Public Comment

There were no public comments. The next meeting is October 8, 2019. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.