



Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Board Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2018

Board Members Present	Board Members Present (via Phone)	ACHI/AID Staff Present
Jeff Brinsfield (QualChoice) Renee Mallory (ADH) Tammy Harlan (DHS) Craig Wilson (ACHI)	Jill Arnold Call Kellogg (BCBS) Brad Martin (UAMS) Billy Roehrenbeck (Pulaski Title) Anne Santifer (OHIT)	Zane Chrisman (AID) (Phone) Jennifer Wessel (ACHI) Izzy Montgomery (ACHI) Trang Riley (ACHI) Laura Landers (ACHI) Rob Steele (ACH – Phone)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Renee Mallory calling the meeting to order at approximately 3:02 p.m. Laura Landers recorded the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Mallory made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 10 board meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Election of Officers

Renee Mallory's three consecutive terms as Healthcare Transparency Initiative (HTI) chair have expired. This was her last meeting as chair. Jill Arnold nominated Cal Kellogg as committee chair, and Cal accepted the nomination. Renee Mallory called for a vote, and the board unanimously voted Cal Kellogg as the new HTI chair. The position of co-chair does not have the same term limits as HTI chair, so Renee Mallory nominated Jill Arnold remain as co-chair. The board unanimously voted Jill Arnold as HTI co-chair.

IV. Review of Bylaws

Craig Wilson addressed the annual review of the bylaws. Currently, there were no recommendations for change, but Craig recommended future discussion on an expedited process for non-controversial data requests. Currently Rule 100 of the Arkansas Healthcare Transparency Initiative Act requires all data requests to be reviewed by the Data Oversight Committee before being sent to the Commissioner.

However, a review of this process could help non-controversial requests, such as Ph.D. students conducting research, become expedited more efficiently to make deadlines. Currently, these expedited reviews are encouraged to submit via the electronic process.

V. Data Requests

Craig Wilson covered recently approved, for review, and anticipated data requests. There are six recently approved requests: Research Triangle Institute, My Medical Shopper, Arkansas Biosciences Institute, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, Cornell University Researcher, and RAND Corporation. Conversation was held concerning Arkansas Bioscience Institute's (ABI) Following Baby Back Home initiative. They are currently conducting research in conjunction with UAMS to collect data on high risk infants returning home. Tammy Harlan asked about funding for the initiative, as DHS is already funding the program. Craig Wilson clarified that since ABI was paying for a subscription to the APCD, this was an ABI researcher making the request to do more of a scientific look into the Bringing Baby Back Home initiative.

There are three data requests up for review: Arkansas Children's Care Network (ACCN), Mathematica, and Decision Resources Group (DRG). ACCN presented to the board at the July 10 meeting, and representatives were present in person and via phone to answer further questions. Since the previous meeting, they submitted their data request to re-identify their patient data within the APCD for those who consent in order to provide care management services within their network. Based on previous discussion of the "opt in" versus "opt out" approach to consent, the Data Oversight Committee recommended the approval of the data request with the "opt in" approach. The ACCN consent form for opting in was slightly modified by ACHI, removing words about "de-identify" and including language on age of majority so patients over 18 can decide if they wish to stay opted in.

Discussion was held between the board and representatives from ACCN about various concerns with this data request. Zane Chrisman asked about setting reminders for individuals who have opted their children in, since the opt in process is a one-time event. A recommendation for an annual privacy noticed was suggested. The current ACCN data request includes cost information, but concern was stated about potential access to competitor's payment information. ACCN representatives stated with their goal of improving care and cost for patients, value based care information could greatly help them impact cost.

ACCN indicated they to go back to their board to see if the data without the paid amounts would be considered sufficient for their purposes. There was also concern about discrimination of care based on cost information if ACCN was able to access paid amounts; ACCN said they would be willing to write a non-discriminatory clause within

their opt in process. There was a motion made to table the discussion until the next meeting, giving ACCN time to talk to their board. The motion was approved.

The second data request, Mathematica, is doing a multi-state Medicaid waiver evaluation for expansion. They received an initial data push from the APCD and have filed their interim report, but they are continuing on with their evaluation into the Arkansas Works period. The Data Oversight Committee made a recommendation to approve. There was a motion to approve the data request; it was approved by the board.

The final data request was from Decision Resources Group (DRG). They are a commercial entity, and their data request is to validate and benchmark their quality control methodologies. The Data Oversight Committee had a 2-1 approval. Cal Kellogg raised concerns about the purpose of their request, to improve their company's internal algorithm, and how that is applicable to the healthcare in Arkansans. There were also comments regarding a DRG source of revenue being from device manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies, and while there was language about patients being undertreated in the request, there was little dialogue about them being over treated. The concern is there may be a push to sell these particular medicines and devices that are underrepresented in a given market. Cal Kellogg made a motion to deny the request, and the board approved the motion for denial.

Upcoming data requests have been verbally stated from the following: Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Medicaid Inspector General, University of Pennsylvania, University of South Carolina, and RAND Corporation.

VI. Re-identification Consent Form

Craig Wilson discussed using the dialogue about the Arkansas Children's Care Network request for the board to create their own opt in form. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

VII. Data Submission Guide Modification

Changes to the new Data Submission Guide have been made. These changes include: new pharmacy fields such as Generic Product Identifiers (GPI) numbers and new currency fields; a new placeholder to capture future pharmacy benefit manager data submissions; new dental field values; supplemental payment data applicable to Medicaid; and a new data integrity audit process.

Tammy Harlan asked a question about the supplemental payment data that applies to Medicaid. Previously the information was only about claims, but didn't capture the total

cost for items not in a claim. These were added to do cross payer comparisons for total costs. She also raised concern about the pharmacy benefit field that captures additional payment information. Certain fields are not filled out because pharmacists are not allowed to give out particular information, and the inclusion of a box in which Medicaid cannot fill out is problematic. There was a motion to approve; motion was approved with one dissent from DHS.

VIII. Data Submission Update

IX. National Association of Health Data Organizations

ACHI staff is attending NAHDO in Utah to present information about the APCD unique Hash ID to enable longitudinal linkage within the APCD data.

X. Public Comment

No public comment was made. The meeting dismissed at 4:20 p.m.