

# MINUTES

## Quality in Health Care Advisory Committee

### Location

Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue, Commissioner's Conf. Room  
Hartford, CT 06106

October 8, 2014

The semiannual meeting of the *Quality in Health Care Advisory Committee* was called to order by Katharine Kranz Lewis, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, at 9:36 AM.

**Members present:** John Brady, Wendy Furniss, Jean Rexford, Katharine Kranz Lewis, Sue Newton, Jon Olson, Barbara Parks-Wolf, Carl Schiessl, Tracy Wodatch & Robert Zavoski

**Members on conference call:** Leona Crosskey, Margherita Giuliano, Jennifer Herz & Alison Hong

**Guest:** Kim Martone, Rich Melchreit & Karen Roberts

**Opening Remarks:** Deputy Commissioner Lewis welcomed the members and thanked them for attending.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Robert Zavoski to approve the April 9, 2014 Advisory Committee Minutes. John Brady seconded the motion. The Committee approved the minutes with two people abstaining from voting.

### Updates

#### **Healthcare Associated Infections Program**

Rich Melchreit was invited to speak about the DPH Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Program. He spoke at length about the history and purpose of the HAI program and provided the group with a summary handout. The group discussed the need for patient education. Jean Rexford will provide a link to patient information.

#### **Physician Survey**

Kim Martone was asked to provide an update about the SIM Physician Survey. She provided a short history of the Physician survey. Significant changes have been made to the survey since it was first drafted. The survey remains in a draft form and is expected to be completed and sent out to Physicians in November.

### **Sub-Committee Work Group Status Reports:**

#### **Best Practices**

Jon Olson provided the workgroup with a brief update regarding the Adverse Event report. He is still working to reconcile information with facilities. Once that is completed he will finalize the report. The group discussed changes to definitions and their effect on statistics. Dr. Zavoski suggested looking into using ICD 10 codes in order to obtain data.

#### **Access to Care**

#### **Definitions Workgroup:**

Carl Schiessl provided an update about the Access to Care workgroup. They drafted a table titled “Know where to go”. The table was designed using simple language to help consumers select the right healthcare setting for different illnesses and situations. Carl reported that the table was a collaborative work in progress with elements derived from a similar chart done by Consumer Reports Magazine. The table will be shared with the Committee members for their input.

**Research Workgroup:**

Carole Bergeron and Tim Elwell researched literature regarding care settings based on outcome, cost and quality. They provided a summary of each article to the sub-committee. Jon Olson will be compiling a report based on the information provided by this workgroup.

**Other Business**

Healthy Connecticut 2020 Performance Dashboard – DPH has launched a Performance Management Dashboard which currently displays data and information on a subset of population indicators from Healthy Connecticut 2020. This is a tool created for the public to be able to see where we are with meeting objectives of the state health improvement plan.

CT Partnership for Patient Safety – Jean Rexford happily reported that there has been success in creating a statewide partnership for patient safety. The partnership is hosting their first event on November 10<sup>th</sup> at noon. A flyer will be sent to the Committee.

Deputy Commissioner Lewis asked the group to consider the purpose and direction of this Committee (copy of statute attached for reference). This will be the first agenda item at the April meeting. Please be prepared to discuss.

- Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM

**2015 Meeting Schedule:**

4/8/15 @ 9:30 AM - DPH Commissioner’s Conference Room, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

10/14/15 @ 9:30 AM - DPH Commissioner’s Conference Room, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT