

Health Care Database Advisory Committee
May 06, 2014, 1:00 PM
Nebraska State Office Building
Lower Level, Room F
301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509

Call to Order

Bruce Ramage called the meeting to order at 1:03pm. The Open Meetings Act Information is posted in the back of the meeting room as required by state law.

Roll Call-Bruce Ramage

Health Care Database Advisory Committee present:

Li-Wu Chen, PhD, Russell Gronewald, Russell Ebke, MD, Bart Karlson, Jeanette Wojtalewicz, Lori Crowther, Sherry Wupper, David Stitzel, Carol Trocinski, Lee Handke, Deborah Bass, Anne Lucile O'Keefe **Ex officio members:** Bruce Ramage, Ruth Vineyard, and Jenifer Roberts-Johnson

In addition to the Committee the following were also present: Martin Swanson and John Paul Sabby (J.P.).

Welcome – Bruce Ramage, Nebraska Director of Insurance

Approval of Agenda – Bruce Ramage

A motion was made to approve agenda by Bruce Ramage, the motion was seconded for approval. Roll call vote approved Agenda by all Committee members with the exception of Jeanette Wojtalewicz who did not vote due to late arrival.

Self-introduction of Committee Members

Presentation on open meetings/public records requirements-Martin Swanson

Handout presented of General Guidance for Public Records and General Guidance for Open Meetings

Overview of Committee duties-Bruce Ramage

Handout presented of Legislative Bill 76 and Bruce Ramage provided a summary of the law.

Bruce Ramage requested in the next meeting that Martin will provide an overview of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191. Martin Swanson agreed.

Bruce Ramage also requested that all communications/questions be guided through JP Sabby. JP was instrumental in getting the committee set up.

- Questions

Q: Idea to build a database to start quality and transparency, who would the ultimate users of the database be?

A: Various potential users. It could be for Individuals seeking healthcare, Healthcare providers, Academia, and Insurance companies, so it could potentially serve multiple purposes.

Q: Has any of the larger insurance companies, Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Healthcare, etc. discussed what type of support we could get?

A: This is the first roll-out of the discussion, so no, not that I am aware of.

Q: Can the State use United Healthcare data to propose Data Transparency.

A: All insurers currently provide transparency.

Discussion

Look into other states of what has been collected. The state of Colorado was referenced. Policy briefs from other states sent by JP Sabby will be sent out to the committee members again for further review.

Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson-Bruce Ramage

Chairperson Bart Karlson nominated by Deborah Bass and seconded. Roll call vote approved Bart Karlson by all Committee members. Karlson accepts

Vice Chairperson Anne Lucile O'Keefe, MD nominated by Deborah Bass and seconded. Roll call vote approved Anne, Lucile O'Keefe, MD by all Committee members. O'Keefe accepts

Bruce Ramage spoke on Department of Insurance staff that assistance to the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Committee will be available as much as needed. Preparing for the meetings, rooms, agendas, contact lists for committee members, etc. will be handled.

New Business-

- Adoption of Roberts Rules of Order-Bart Karlson
 - Moved and seconded-Roll call vote approved the Adoption of Roberts Rules of Order by all Committee members.
- Rule for Publication of Public Notice-Bart Karlson
 - Moved and seconded-Roll call vote approved the Rule for Publication of Public Notice as it currently exists by the State by all Committee members.

General Discussion on committee goals and creation of timelines to fulfill statutory duties-Bart Karlson

- What is ultimate goal regarding the recommendation needed to Director of Insurance
- LB 76 does not explain who the users of the database will be
- Transparency could cost services
- What type of data will be needed to pull in
- Where is the funding to create, implement, manage, and report out the data

- Need to identify who owns the data along with oversight of it. Who will manage the quality and who are the users
- Recommendation to committee was to define focus and narrow down priorities. Possible recommendation from the committee could be to ask for a budget to fund further study
- Concern of Insurance companies having full-disclosure of data, could cause competitive rates, but lose quality
- Is the public wanting health information to be made public? Will there be concern of ID theft
- Based on a public survey, consumers are willing to have electronic health data be made available
- It will cost to communicate the location and function of the database to users. Need money to have outreach so users are aware of tools available
- Questions on what type of data does the State already have and can it be used. Is there current data collected in more than one database
- Historically, claims data has been collected and analyzed. What about clinical data versus claims data on costs and quality
- Value based healthcare delivery models; hospital care, physician care, etc...
- Cost & quality combine all together, are people saving money, are people getting healthier
- Researcher will need whole picture across the spectrum
- Define scope
- Does Committee recommendation need to include?
 - Expectations from public
 - Expectations from providers
 - Expectations from researchers
 - What type of access
- Committee suggested a need to review other APCD's to see data output. Review other states who have started the transparency and ask questions on amount of money spent, is the data output useful, bad data can be worse than no data. Ask States for lessons learned
- Set-up conference call/Webinar with other States to learn from them.

Russ Ebke left the meeting at 2:34pm

- Research the links that were sent in email on 4/30/2014 by JP Sabby prior to next meeting
- Review Treo Solutions website
- Create a list of questions for future conference call to ask states questions, send list of questions to JP Sabby at JP.Sabby@Nebraska.gov
- JP Sabby will recirculate questions to members
- Look into funding for a study that will list out benefits and disadvantages

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Proposed Future Meeting Dates (All times 9:00 am-12:00 pm)

Committee discussed the next scheduled meeting for June 5, 2014 from 9:00-12:00. The committee asked for meetings to be held in the afternoon versus morning due to commute time for members.

Three members will not be in attendance at the June 5, 2014 meeting. Sherry Wupper, Carol Trocinski and Dr. Li-Wu Chen. A motion was made to excise a quorum. A quorum is required for each meeting. A majority of all members of a body, including ex officio members, is a quorum unless the Commission sets a higher requirement by its rules. A decision generally requires a majority of the voting members present in the quorum, the motion was seconded for approval.

Roll call vote for 51% Quorum approved by all Committee members with the exception of Russell Ebke who did not vote due to leaving the meeting earlier.

Next meeting will be June 5, 2014 from Noon – 3:00pm if a location can be reserved at this date and time.

Adjourn