

FINAL MINUTES

MEETING OF:

PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

ONE HACC DRIVE
WILDWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

DATE: January 27, 2009

1
2 Ana Pujols-McKee, M.D., Chair
3 Stanton Smullens, M.D. (absent)
4 Gary A. Merica, R.Ph. (phone)
5 Anita Fuhrman, R.N., B.S.
6 Joan Garzarelli, R.N., MSN (phone)
7 Marshall W. Webster (absent)
8 Cliff Rieders, Esquire (phone)
9 Lorina Marshall-Blake (phone)
10 William F. Goodrich, Esquire (phone)
11 Roosevelt Hairston, Esquire (absent)

12 Also Present:

13
14 Mike Doering, Executive Director
15 William Marella, PA-PSRS Project Manager
16 Barbara Holland, Esquire, Board Counsel
17 Laurene M. Baker, Communications Director
18 Teresa Plesce, Administration Specialist
19 Fran Charney, Director of Educational Programs
20 Stacy Mitchell, Department of Health

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22 ***

23 PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

24 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Patient
25 Safety Authority was held on Tuesday, January 27,
26 2009. Ana Pujols-McKee, M.D., Chair, called the
27 meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

28 ***

29 The motion to approve the minutes of December 9, 2008
30 carried unanimously.

31 ***

32 Report of Executive Director

33 [Mike Doering reported the December patient safety

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1 advisory went out on January 12, 2009, and contained
2 very interesting articles on living wills and DNR
3 orders, and multi-drug resistant organisms. In terms
4 of PA-PSRS, he noted work is being done on the nursing
5 home HAI (Healthcare Associated Infections) reporting
6 applications. Testing is being performed on the
7 facility portion of the data base. Mr. Doering noted
8 the new PSA informational web site is now live and has
9 been received and embraced very favorably. He noted
10 in regards to continuing education credits that
11 meetings have been held with the Pennsylvania Medical
12 Society, the Pennsylvania State Nursing Association,
13 and the Pennsylvania Pharmacy Association and with the
14 intention of continuing or beginning cooperative
15 arrangements with them to make sure their members get
16 continuing education credits through the advisory
17 articles. Mr. Doering stated there is an effort
18 ongoing to hire several people for the PSL (patient
19 safety liaison) program. Three additional PSLs should
20 be in place this spring.]

21 ***

22 Initiative Reports

23 [Joan Garzarelli reported the Authority staff has been

1 focusing on a smooth implementation of the nursing
2 home HAI reporting. She noted the mandatory reporting
3 begins June 1 for the eastern region, June 15 for the
4 central region, and June 22 for the western region.
5 She stated a pilot test of six nursing homes will be
6 conducted April 22 through May 6. Ms. Garzarelli also
7 reported that an article on MRSA (Methicillin-
8 resistant Staphylococcus aureus) reduction success
9 stories is being developed and should be published in
10 the March issue of the Patient Safety Advisory. Also,
11 she noted work continues to address issues with the
12 NHSN (National Healthcare Safety Network) reporting
13 with the hospitals working with the help desk and with
14 the Department of Health on definitions.]

15 ***

16 PA-PSRS Update

17 [Bill Marella discussed the statewide survey being
18 conducted of patient safety officers to determine if
19 certain patient safety practices have been adopted.
20 Most of these practices refer to items that were
21 addressed in the Patient Safety Advisory and are also
22 related to some of the national patient safety goals,
23 the CMS non-payment events, and other national

1 goals/objectives. Mr. Marella stated the domains in
2 the survey will serve as a framework for the annual
3 report. He noted there will be a different approach
4 on the annual report this year, and it will be more
5 about what the hospitals, ASFs (Ambulatory Surgical
6 Facilities) and other facilities are doing in terms of
7 the patient safety processes. He stated the incentive
8 for the facilities to participate in the survey, in
9 addition to being able to contribute their own data,
10 is they will receive a consulting type report
11 providing them feedback on where their responses stand
12 in relation to the responses received from peer
13 facilities. Mr. Marella stated the desire is to
14 structure the annual report around concepts in patient
15 safety domains such as medication safety, device
16 safety, and safe surgery. The survey data will be
17 triangulated with data regarding ARHQ (Agency for
18 Healthcare Research and Quality) patient safety
19 indicators, and data from the PA-PSRS (Pennsylvania
20 Patient Safety Reporting System) system itself. He
21 noted the survey has been out since January 12 and
22 will remain open until at least January 30. The
23 annual report will be published in April.]

1

2 Old Business

3 [Fran Charney discussed the patient safety education
4 program. She stated a meeting was held with the
5 Pennsylvania Medical Society, the Pennsylvania State
6 Nurse's Association and the Pennsylvania Pharmacists
7 Association regarding CME and CEU credits and
8 licensure requirements. She discussed a basic
9 curriculum being developed by the Authority that will
10 be offered to new and some existing patient safety
11 officers. Ms. Charney reported that the Authority
12 gave a presentation at a facility for their patient
13 safety liaison program. Collaborations are also being
14 done with facilities to improve mislabeling of
15 specimens. She noted there is cooperation with the
16 Pennsylvania Hospital and Health System Association
17 working on the national project to reduce CLABS
18 (central line-associated bloodstream infection) in
19 ICUs. Ms. Charney stated things are moving forward
20 with a statewide education initiative on disclosure.
21 The goal is to develop a disclosure train-the-trainer
22 education program and to provide the opportunity for
23 participants to gain the knowledge and teaching tools

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1 for effective communication in high quality
2 disclosure.]

3 ***

4 [Mike Doering gave a budget update in order to prompt
5 the Board to consider the FY 08-09 assessment. He
6 outlined the various expenditures to date and what the
7 expenditures for the remainder of the year are
8 expected to be. Regarding facility assessment, Mr.
9 Doering stated the facilities have not yet been
10 assessed for fiscal year 2008-09. The Department of
11 Health does the assessment based on the budget of the
12 Authority. He stated he believed an assessment of
13 around \$5 million should be considered, which is what
14 is projected to be spent this year. This is
15 approximately 8 percent less than facilities were
16 assessed last year and approximately 16% less than the
17 maximum allowed assessment.]

18 ***

19 [Mike Doering discussed reaction to the low-reporting
20 letter noting the letter was sent out to 50 hospitals
21 identifying them based on specific criteria as low
22 reporters. He noted there was only limited response,
23 but it has turned into some significant interaction at

1 least one facility where the Authority will provide
2 some education. Data collection will be done at a
3 later date to determine if there's any change in the
4 reporting.]

5 ***

6 [Mike Doering presented a discussion on the ongoing
7 attempt at serious event standardization. He noted
8 there has been dialogue regarding the standardization
9 principles that have been discussed by the Board. He
10 had updated the document and provided it to the Board.
11 He noted further discussion should be held regarding
12 this document but suggested that public comment could
13 be very beneficial. Cliff Rieders made a motion
14 to publish for comment in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
15 the principles in connection with serious event
16 reporting and thereafter consider those comments and
17 to issue these principles after further discussion.

18
19 Mr. Merica supported the motion but wanted to go on
20 record as stating he disagreed with principle number
21 three which says there may be a serious event even if
22 there was no error. Mr. Merica pointed out the title
23 of the legislation that required reporting is named

1 the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error
2 Act. However, he said he would support the motion to
3 submit it for comment to the patient safety officers
4 of organizations.

5 Dr. McKee, Chair, initiated a roll call vote. The
6 motion was carried unanimously.

7 ***

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9 New Business

10 [Mike Doering noted that Dr. Brennan had stepped down
11 from the HAI Advisory Panel due to competing time
12 commitments. The HAI Board champions nominated Dr.
13 Neil Fishman to fill the vacancy. Ms. Garzarelli made
14 a motion to confirm Dr. Fishman to the HAI Advisory
15 Panel and Ms. Fuhrman seconded the motion. The motion
16 carried by a unanimous vote.

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18 [The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.]

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Jerry Blevins
Minute Clerk
York Stenographic Services

PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REFERENCE INDEX
JANUARY 27, 2009

	TIME	COUNTER NUMBER	AGENDA
9	10:00	0060	Call to Order
10	10:01	0148	Approval of Minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting.
11			
12			
13			
14	10:03	0197	Report of the Executive Director
15			
16			
17	10:10	0607	HAI Initiative
18			
19	10:16	0930	PA-PSRS Update
20			
21	10:46	2873	Patient Safety Education Program
22			
23			
24	11:00	3994	Budget Update and Assessment Discussion
25			
26			
27	11:19	5597	Reaction to Low- Reporting Letter
28			
29			
30	11:23	5956	Standardization Discussion
31			
32			
33	11:32	0120	HAI Advisory Board Member Replacement
34			
35			
36	11:35		Adjournment

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