HCAi Department of Health Care Access and Information

2020 West El Camino Avenue, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95833
hcai.ca.gov

Hospital Equity Measures Advisory Committee
July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Dr. Amy Adome, Sharp Healthcare*;* Dr. David Lown, California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems; Denise Tugade, Service Employees International Union; Denny Chan, Justice in Aging; Cary Sanders, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network; Dr. Anthony Iton, California Endowment; Silvia Yee, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund; Dannie Ceseña, Program Manager, California LGBTQ Services Network*;* Kristine Toppe, National Committee for Quality Assurance; Dr. Neil Maizlish, Public Health Alliance of Southern California; Robyn Strong, California Department of Health Care Access and Information;

State Partners: Dr. Pamela Riley, California Department of Health Care Services; Dr. Alice Huan-mei Chen, Covered California; Nathan Nau, California Department of Managed Health Care; Julie Nagasako, California Department of Public Health

Presenters: Elizabeth A. Landsberg, Director, HCAI; Elia Gallardo, Deputy Director Legislative and Government Affairs and Chief Equity Officer, HCAI; Geoffrey Trautman, Attorney, HCAI; Michael Valle, Deputy Director, HCAI; Robyn Strong, Assistant Branch Chief Enterprise Data Operations Branch, HCAI; Christopher Krawczyk, PhD, Chief Analytics Officer, HCAI; Dr. Bruce Spurlock, Hospital Quality Measures Expert, HCAI Consultant; Natalie Graves, Hospital Quality Measures Expert, HCAI Consultant; Ignatius Bau, Health Equity Expert, HCAI Consultant

Public Attendance*:* 17

Agenda Item I. Call to Order, Welcome & Oath of Office

Elizabeth A. Landsberg, Director, HCAI welcomed committee members, members of the public and internal HCAI staff. She also administered the Oath of Office to Committee members. Director Landsberg introduced Elia Gallardo as the Committee's facilitator.

Elia Gallardo, Deputy Director Legislative and Government Affairs and Chief Equity Officer, HCAI, introduced herself and her goals as the facilitator for the meeting. She also reviewed the meeting procedures and ground rules for hybrid, virtual and in person meetings.

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

No questions/comments from the committee.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item II. Committee Member Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves and answered the following question:

What do you wish to achieve by participating on the Hospital Equity Measures Advisory Committee?

Committee members expressed their interest in gaining a better understanding of hospital equity measures and metrics at the state and federal level; they hope to achieve alignment with other equity initiatives across the state to obtain an equitable health care system with improved care for California's diverse communities including but not limited to the LGBTQ community, people with disabilities and the elderly. Committee members noted that they hope that the measures help us achieve the end goal and improve outcomes, while still being practical. Lastly the committee provided a reminder that "the perfect should not be the enemy of the good" in establishing this initiative.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item III. Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and Conflict of Interest Code

Geoffrey Trautman, Attorney, HCAI, introduced himself and his role as an attorney at HCAI. He also provided a high-level summary of the requirements outlined in the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and discussed the Conflict-of-Interest Code as well as the potential requirement for members to complete the Form 700.

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

Committee members inquired about HCAI's required ethics training as well as clarity on how to ensure they do not engage in violations of Bagley-Keene while serving on this board.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item IV. HCAI Data Programs Overview

Michael Valle, Deputy Director, HCAI, provided an overview of HCAI's mission and vision as well as a summary of HCAI data programs. He highlighted data initiatives such as:

- Adding new procedures to cardiovascular outcomes reporting
- Adding more granular geographic information to hospitalization dataset

- Adding more nursing home financial transparency data
- Establishing Workforce Research Data Center
- Establishing the Health Care Payments Database (California's APCD)

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

Committee members expressed interest in learning more about HCAI's efforts to expand access to more granular geographic information in the hospitalization dataset. HCAI's Assistant Branch Chief Enterprise Data Operations Branch, Robyn Strong, said that the department has an active proposal awaiting approval with the Office of Administrative Law which would allow HCAI to collect patient address with patient discharge data, ambulatory surgery data, and emergency department data.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item V. Hospital Equity Reporting Program and Hospital Equity Measures Advisory Committee

Robyn Strong, Assistant Branch Chief Enterprise Data Operations Branch, HCAI Christopher Krawczyk, PhD, Chief Analytics Officer, HCAI, provided an overview of the legislative history and intent for the Hospital Equity Reporting Program. They also provided an overview of the Committee's role and reviewed the program timeline.

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

Committee members discussed alignment across demographic data collection, improvements to the current procedures for Electronic Health Record (EHR) collection within hospitals and efforts to drive standardization, specifically with considerations of the United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) Version 3 outlined data elements around the collection of data regarding race and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI).

The committee also asked for further information regarding the 10 widest disparities and penalties for hospitals failing to report as it is outlined in statute. They also discussed the importance of data completeness and real time data while also expressing interest in HCAI's efforts to maintain quality, timely data.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item VI. Measuring Quality at Hospitals

Dr. Bruce Spurlock, Hospital Quality Measures Expert, HCAI Consultant, and Natalie Graves, Hospital Quality Measures Expert, HCAI Consultant, provided an overview of quality measurement development in hospitals and a primer on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed health equity measures.

Dr. Bruce Spurlock presented on the following:

- o An overview of hospital quality measurement and reporting programs.
- o Common domains for measuring health care quality, with an emphasis on the most relevant for spurring action to decrease health and health care disparities and inequities.

Natalie Graves provided an overview on aligning with Federal health Equity Priorities. She presented on the following:

- o A review of the health equity measures in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) proposed rule as an indicator of federal priorities related to health equity measurement. The proposed measures outlined included the measure name, details, and any reporting timelines.

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

Committee members discussed the concept of balance measures, the importance of transparency regarding risk adjustments and how those differ from risk reports, as well as the potential for the committee's participation in goal setting to measure and reduce disparities; members also noted that there are benefits as well as potential limitations to the geographic approach to disparities, which should be taken into account in these discussions.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item VII. Health Equity Resources

Ignatius Bau, Health Equity Expert, HCAI Consultant, provided an overview of health equity for hospitals and health systems.

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

Committee members discussed the connection between USCDI and the hospitals use of EHRs, specifically seeking clarity around specific fields within the collection of EHRs being mandatory or voluntary especially with regard to race and SOGI data. Members also discussed planned California's adoption of the USCDI Version 3. The committee also noted the importance of training for staff who are involved at the intake portion of patient admission as an important factor in ensuring the hospitals are collecting the most complete and comprehensive data possible.

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item VIII. Public Comment

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

There were no comments from members of the public.

Agenda Item IX. Future Meeting Dates

Questions/Comments from the Committee and Members of the Public:

There were no questions or comments from the committee.

There were no comments from members of the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.