

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
PERINATAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 13, 2005

12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**James R. Thompson Center
031 Conference Room
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois**

Howard Strassner, M.D. Chair

Minutes

Attendees: Howard T. Strassner, Richard Besinger, J. Roger Powell, Jose Gonzalez, Denis Crouse, Harold Bigger, Patricia Brady, Phyllis Lawlor-Klean, Cathy Gray, Janet Hoffman, Nancy Marshall, Gail J.H. Wilson, Barbara Prochnicki, John Paton, John Barton, David Fox, George Maroney, Clifford Corbett

Excused Absences: Karole Lakota,

IDPH Staff: Maureen McBride, Fee Habtes, Francine Pearce-Falls

1. Call to Order and WelcomeHoward Strassner

Dr. Strassner indicated that a quorum was present and that all items on the agenda would be addressed.

2. Self Introduction of MembersHoward Strassner

Members introduced themselves. New members Janet Hoffman RD, Mr. David Fox, Mr. Clifford Corbett, Mr. George Maroney, Denis Crouse, M.D., PhD were welcomed.

Fee Habtes from the Office of Health Promotion was introduced. Francine Pearce-Falls, M.D. was introduced as the Medical Consultant for the Office of Health Promotion, Illinois Department of Public Health.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting.Maureen McBride

The Minutes of the June 9, 2005 meeting were presented. John Paton, M.D. moved to approve, Cathy Gray, RN, MBA seconded. The membership approved the minutes.

4. Vice Chair Discussion/ NominationHoward Strassner

Dr. Strassner presented this concept of the Perinatal Advisory Committee having a Chair and Vice Chair to ensure continuity of activity of the Committee if the Chair was unable to be present. The process at this meeting will include addressing the concept, proposing a Vice Chair, requesting ratification by the Committee. By-laws will then be addressed to define issues of succession.

A motion was presented to have Dr. Roger Powell serve as Vice Chair during this “limbo” period by Dr. Strassner. Dr. Powell agreed to the nomination to serve as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Dr. Paton, the membership approved. Dr. Powell will serve as Vice Chair effective immediately.

Dr. Strassner indicated that many of the important functions of the PAC have been addressed through the formation of a number of subcommittees. The rest of the meeting will address these ongoing functions.

5. Report of the Illinois Statewide Quality CouncilHarold Bigger

Dr. Bigger reported on the meeting of October 12, 2005, and Regional Quality Council updates included the following:

Northwestern: Education at all Network hospitals to 350 providers has been accomplished to address the issue of prematurity and to reduce the number of premature infants born at non-level III hospitals. The potential for reducing VLBW infants was also discussed.

Neonatal management concepts included encouragement of the STABLE Course, Attention to the role of temperature, blood pressure and glucose management. The role of respiratory care and review of laboratory indicators was focused. Emotional support of the family in the process was emphasized.

Rockford: Data from Vermont –Oxford studies, looking at labor and deliveries simulations and how to make childbirth more palatable was presented. A preventability survey was conducted and a tool developed to educate each hospital about their statistics and where they ranked in comparison with all those in the study.

A “We Deliver Database” has been developed to provide information on tocolytics, use of steroids and antibiotic, thermoregulation of the newborn and PPRM.

Special attention has been focused on the definition and application of the terms “Urgent” (not a tight timeline) and “Emergent” (5-10 minutes) when discussing the need for Cesarean Birth intervention. A data collection tool has been implemented with most facilities beating the timeframe.

MMRC: Dr. Kilpatrick will spearhead an education subcommittee to address the issues of hemorrhage and hypertension in pregnancy, a major cause of maternal death in the State of Illinois. Once developed, the Perinatal Administrators will disseminate the educational program and monitor. Tools to assess facility monitoring will be developed.

A recent visit of Mrs. V. Yushchenko, wife of the President of the Ukraine resulted in the request for explanation of a number of IDPH activities including genetic screening, hearing screening, Perinatal HIV prevention program and the use of various statistics. IDPH was recognized for the willingness to share information and provided Mrs. Yushchenko with pamphlets and teaching tools.

Dr. Robin L. Jones is currently on a medical mission to Katrina victims. The PAC recognizes her service to Perinatal Health

6. Report of the Rules Subcommittee Jose Gonzalez

Dr. Gonzalez described for new members the history of the present revision process including the need for Rules and Regulations to have a language that will be clearer regarding certain items.

As a final document is being prepared, much input has already been obtained from Neonatologists and additional input is being sought from Maternal-Fetal Medicine physicians.

Nancy Marshall discussed the unique role of respiratory care staff in providing support with ventilators. Each hospital has its own protocols for care that range from providing actual patient care and determining ventilator settings to maintenance and oversight of the equipment as prime responsibilities.

The role of the Neonatologist and the role of Hospitalists needs to be defined for presence in delivery for resuscitation and management. Rules need to address estimated weight, gestational age etc.

The rules pertaining to Level II+'s need special attention to respiratory standards and advanced practice nursing standards. Standards need to be defined and clarified.

A survey of hospitals is being complied to discern the roles of respiratory therapy across the State. At a recent Illinois Society of Respiratory Therapy Meeting – the issues were addressed and a document was forwarded to Dr. Gonzalez.

7. Report of the Data subcommittee John Paton

The Data Subcommittee will start meeting following the SQC meeting to allow more participation from a wider variety of geographic areas throughout the State

An application for data sharing among Networks in the Chicago Metropolitan area has been made.

Data sharing is necessary to provide analysis of trends and evaluation of outcomes. Maureen McBride indicated it is obvious that women from same zip-code are delivering at different locations in the Chicago Metropolitan area. Significant public health issue may exist in these areas but the lack of coordinated data does not emphasize the magnitude of problems.

Cathy Gray explained how this need was highlighted at the site visits. Incidence of drug use, domestic violence and other factors overlap many facilities serving like geographic areas. Dr. Rosenberg from the University of Illinois is assisting the Perinatal administrators in this effort. It is felt that the outcome will be informative from a public health and City of Chicago strategic point of view.

John Barton indicated that often affiliations were formed a personal basis, which may not always be the most efficient from a service component standpoint for that community

Gail Wilson reminded the membership stated that now Networks are now even less geographically organized.

“Improving the Outcome of Pregnancy II” – suggests that more needs to be done in the area of geographic analysis.

Cathy Gray indicated this will at least give us an “N” when discussing community outcomes. Outcomes shared will point out strengths and weakness of facilities regardless of transport patterns, insurances and/or Network affiliation.

Maureen indicated that the Perinatal System was designed to provide quality outcomes and education, and not as a business model.

Gail stressed the need for continued involvement of the Perinatal Advisory Committee in this process. Dr. Strassner remarked that there are several Perinatal Centers are closer to each other than to their nearest Network hospital

Dr. Paton indicated that a proposal is being moved forward for approval and must have legal approval. A future goal may be geocoding.

8. Report of the By-Laws Task ForceGail Wilson

Gail Wilson had no new report for today. The Subcommittee needs to see how the Medical Studies act will be applied to use of information. Maureen McBride indicated that Dr. Pearce-Falls will be working on this project.

Dr. Strassner discussed that the appointment and reappointment process of chair, vice-chair, and members should not be automatic.

9. Report of the Quality Improvement Subcommittee ... Barb Prochnicki

Barb Prochnicki met with Dr. Rosenberg discussing improving the accuracy of Maternal Death reporting. Facilities and individuals need the outcomes of the completed MMRC reviews. It was suggested that a collaborative Q/I process between Networks be initiated in a closed subcommittee. There is a larger number of Maternal deaths based on the new rules and the constant research of the Center for Health Statistics.

10. Report of the Consortium of Perinatal Administrators.....Barb Prochnicki

The Consortium is working on establishing a system for location of available beds. Each Perinatal Center now reports to the Perinatal Program Administrator when Neonatal or Maternal Services are not available due to licensed beds being occupied. Currently Administrators are calling around trying to find beds for their patients. Hospitals are licensed for a specific number of Neonatal and Maternal beds. Maintenance of a standard data system will streamline the process and could be used to support requests for expansion to the Health Facilities Planning Board / Certificate of Need.

Gail Wilson asked how long it will take to implement this process. She indicated that the March of Dimes would support a bill to complete the process.

Dr. Barton indicated that at one time there was a process in the City of Chicago.

Maureen reported that as downstate hospitals close, patients traveling farther, going into care earlier, placing a strain on tertiary care facilities in the area. On some days not one NICU bed is available south of I-80.

Discussion continued about the difficulty in maintaining downstate hospitals. A bed locator system will also track those infants leaving the state.

Dr. Strassner encouraged IDPH staff to use the PAC as a resource as members have opportunities to return to their employment and provide avenues of support for initiatives.

George Maroney suggested that a cost analysis be done and asked if there any funds that can be applied that the process move forward.

Suggestions were made that the regulator process may be appended to another bill designed to provide alert systems within the State such as the Bioterrorism bill. Cathy Gray indicated southern New Jersey has a rotating system, each hospital is assigned to take transport on that basis.

All hospitals are now participating in the Perinatal HIV Project. Dr. Garcia and Dr. Bryant are going out to Networks to review progress.

11. Report of the Facilities Designation Subcommittee.Cathy Gray

Membership was reminded that a vote on the report of the committee will be needed.

The Subcommittee is completing the process of reviewing all hospitals that have changed levels between 2003 and 2004.

Two institutions required further action after presentation to Designation Subcommittee

One required further clarification to remain in compliance. – Approved.

One hospital came forward from a Level II to a Level II+ - Approved

Two new members were approved: Umil Chaudhry, M.D. and Dennis Crouse, M.D.

Family Practice Physician, Dr. Brady has been added to the Sub Committee

Maureen McBride indicated the Subcommittee needs approval for eight of the ten Perinatal Center reports. A motion to accept the Report of the Facilities Designation Subcommittee was made by Cathy Gray and seconded by Barb Prochnicki. **PASSED.**

Two new documents have created by the subcommittee; Guidelines for Application for Change in Designation and a list of elements that will be required. Using this process, changes will be able to be made without going through rules change to adjust materials or to request supporting documentation. Gail Wilson requested that all Committee members receive the documents. The Subcommittee agreed. Previous forms in the rules will be eliminated once new designation forms are implemented. The new forms will request more information addressing credentialing and privileges and creating consistency of the process.

12. New Business.....Howard Strassner

Gail Wilson reported that a new presentation on Postpartum Depression entitled “Descent Into Desperation” produced by Digital Realm will be premiered on Monday, October 25 at the Union League at 5:00 pm. The presentation and reception will be sponsored by the Ounce of Prevention Fund and the March of Dimes. The project was developed by Laura Miller from the University of Illinois. WTTW will air the presentation on October 27 and 30. VHS and DVD’s will be available for sale. The documentary will be a powerful insight into the problem of Postpartum Depression..

The National Perinatal Conference brochure was circulated. The conference will be October 27-29 at the Marriott Lincolnshire resort.

13. AdjournmentHoward Strassner

Dr. Paton moved adjournment, seconded by Dr. Barton, membership approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.