

Louisiana Birth Defects Monitoring Network Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 16, 2008, 2:30 pm
OPH State Laboratory
3101 West Napoleon Street
Metairie, LA

Attendees:

Dr. Floyd Buras, Chair

Ligia Ayala, March of Dimes, Louisiana Chapter
Keybo M. Griffin, OPH, LBDMN*
Julie Johnston, OPH, LBDMN*
Dr. Lyn Kieltyka, OPH, Maternal and Child Health Program
Dr. Yves Lacassie, Children's Hospital
Dr. Dimitriy Niyazov, Ochsner Hospital

Darcie Olexia, OPH, Environmental Epidemiology/Toxicology
Dionka C. Pierce, OPH, LBDMN
Nancy Roach, OPH, LBDMN*
Dr. Duane Superneau, Woman's Hospital*
Dr. Louis Trachtman, OPH, Genetics
Kay Webster, OPH, LBDMN

*via conference call

I. Welcome/Introductions/Announcements: *Dr. Floyd Buras, General.*

Dr. Floyd Buras called the meeting to order and asked if there were any announcements. He announced that there had been a recent \$125 million cut in reimbursement for pediatric services. He warned that this cut may threaten the LBDMN as many physicians may withdraw *from the program*. Dr. Louis Trachtman suggested drafting a letter to Dr. Alan Levine, DHH Secretary, expressing concern about the effects of the cut. Dr. Buras proposed comparing reimbursement codes pre and post cut to determine the effects, if any. There was further general discussion on this topic.

II. LBDMN Program Update: *Kay Webster, Dionka C. Pierce, Christy Patton*, Keybo Griffin, Nancy Roach, Julie Johnston.*

Ms. Webster updated the group on recent accomplishments and progress. She announced that the Region 1 Data Collection Specialist position had been filled by Ms. Jennifer Walgamotte whose first day would be Tuesday, May 27th. Ms. Webster also reported that LBDMN participated in Public Health Day at the Capitol. However, legislators were busy in session and as a result, not many visited the LBDMN display table.

Ms. Pierce distributed the most recent version of the LBDMN Family Resource guide to attendees, describing what it would be like in its final printed form (full color, glossy cover stock, 20# bond for inside pages). She reported that the guide had received the necessary OPH approvals and was being reviewed by the Office of the Secretary to later be sent to the DHH Communications Office for its final approval before printing. Advisory Board members recommended several changes to the guide including adding addresses, changing page headings and reviewing the list of pediatric hospitals.

In Ms. Pierce's report on health education activities, she stated that folic acid brochures had been delivered to OPH Region 1 Health Units, and to the Region 4 Data Collection Specialist and would

soon be mailed to data collectors in other regions (for distribution to area health units and at local events).

Ms. Pierce read the report of Christy Patton, Region 7 Data Collection Specialist. In it, Ms. Patton stated that data collection had begun for the first quarter of 2008 at Willis Knighton South with the following facilities to follow: Willis Knighton Bossier, Willis Knighton Pierremont, Minden Medical Center, LSUHSC Shreveport, and North Caddo Medical Center. Due to a system conversion, Ms. Patton had been unable to continue data collection at Christus Schumpert Highland and Christus Schumpert St. Mary until the HIM Department was able to work out a glitch in their computer system that will allow the department to generate accurate quarterly reports for LBDMN.

Mr. Griffin, Region 4 Data Collection Specialist, reported that he has made contact with 11 hospitals. He received reports from Women's and Children's, Abbeville General, UMCLSU, and has reports pending from Lafayette General and Dauterive.

Ms. Roach, Region 5 Data Collection Specialist, reported that 88% of the potential cases identified at Women & Children's Hospital--Lake Charles for the 2nd quarter of 2007 have been reviewed. Five cases are pending. In addition, 47% of the potential cases identified at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital for the 2nd quarter of 2007 have been reviewed. Twenty are pending. The medical records department at LCMH for Women has been short-staffed over the past month pending a new hire for a sudden vacancy in its two-person medical-records department at the birthing facility. As a result, it has taken longer to access requested records. One potential case has been identified for the 2nd quarter of 2007 at West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital and is pending review. She stated that she has received great cooperation from hospitals in the region.

Ms. Johnston, Region 2 Data Collection Specialist, reported that she is awaiting Year 2007 reports from Ochsner. There is a problem with transitioning staff there. She stated that she has completed 1st quarter 2008 potential case lists for St. Tammany and North Oaks Hospitals and 2nd half 2006 potential case lists for Children's Hospital.

III. 2005 Data Analysis Results

Ms. Webster presented a draft report of year 2005 Surveillance Data. In it she highlighted program coverage in each region, birth defects cases by body system and case counts for other categories of interest. See the attached document: LBDMN Report of Analysis Results for 2005 Surveillance Data for a full report.

IV. Old Business/Other Business: *General*

There was none.

V. Public Comment: *Public*. There was no public comment.

Dr. Buras declared the meeting adjourned.