



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals

Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON PERINATAL CARE AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY

DHH Bienville Building, 628 N 4th St, 1st Floor Room 173 Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Optional call-in for members 1888-204-5984 Access Code 1982918
January 08, 2015

Attendees: Dr. Rebecca Accardo, Dr. P. Scott Barrilleaux, Chair, Dr. Robert Blereau, Gaye Dean, Pam Egan, Dr. Cliff Moore, Dr Cong T. Vo, Amy Zapata

Guests: Karis Schoellmann, Ekwutosi Okoroh, Sabrina Noah, Berkley Durbin, Becky Majdoch (phone), Melissa McNeil(phone) Regional MCH Coordinators: Kelly Bankston

Meeting Notes:

- 1) Welcome -New Member
 - Dr Cliff Moore was welcomed to the Commission.
- 2) Review/Approval of Minutes
 - Members voted unanimously to approve and accept the meeting notes of November 2014 and December 2014, with minor edits (the spelling of the name of one of the members, and adding the May meeting date that had been left off the list of 2015 meeting dates).
- 3) Perinatal Operating Guidelines
 - Karis Schoellmann will follow-up with Rep Barrow regarding exploring the feasibility of requesting a change in the definition/rules for the Perinatal Commission, to allow members to actively vote/participate when on the phone (Skype/Webinars etc.).
- 4) Future Perinatal Commission Agenda Items
 - All members were requested to review the responsibilities and goals of the Perinatal Commission as outlined in the legislation that establishes the commission, and bring issues to the table that the Perinatal Commission should address at subsequent meetings and throughout the year. Karis Schoellmann will send an e-mail to members requesting topics for consideration. *Note: The legislation that outlines the Commission Responsibilities and Goals can be found in the Operating Guidelines. Karis will resend this document to members.*
- 5) Perinatal Commission Membership
 - Membership of Dr. Rodney Wise and Dr. Cliff Moore serving in the positions of Health Care Administrator (private sector) and Perinatologist, respectively, was approved by the Governor's Office, Dept. of Boards and Commissions. In addition, Dr. Blereau has been confirmed by the Dept. of Boards and Commission to be able to continue to serve in the position of Family Practitioner.
 - Recommendations for additional vacancies were discussed. The Commission recommended Dr. Tina Stefanski's for the position of *representative of a family planning clinic*, and Dr. Debra Hollingsworth for the position as *nutritionist*, and Beth Manning for the position of *social worker*. Karis Schoellmann will reach out to candidates to confirm interest, and accordingly submit these recommendations to the Dept. of Boards and Commissions.
 - Members appealed to Berkley Durbin to help identify a pediatrician to potentially serve on the Commission.

6) Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

- Using the grid that plots out the ASTHO Guidance on NAS and potential Commission action items, members were requested to consider using their professional sphere of influence to make an impact. As examples, Dr. Barrilleaux has secured a presentation slot at this year's ACOG Conference/Meeting; he has reached out to the State Board of Medical Examiners and secured a slot on the agenda of their board meeting, as well as inclusion of information on their website and in their newsletter.
- Dr. Barrilleaux and Dr. Stefanski will develop relevant talking points/recommendations regarding NAS to help guide the development of any subsequent presentations, letters, and oral appeals to various entities, providers, agencies, and media.
- Members proposed that a workgroup of the Commission formulate clear recommendations regarding NAS to share with the Louisiana Medicaid Bayou Health Plans.
- To further explore potential action items related to NAS, Dr. Dunham, Director of the Office of Behavioral Health will be invited to the next Perinatal Commission meeting.
- Dr. Ekwutosi Okoroh, CDC epidemiologist assignee to Louisiana Medicaid reported that the next level of analysis to validate initial findings related to the prevalence and costs of NAS is continuing, and will be presented at the next Perinatal Commission meeting.
- Melissa McNeil, epidemiologist of the OPH-Bureau of Family Health reported on the pros and cons of making NAS a reportable condition. It was determined that the analysis of NAS data being provided by LA Medicaid would significantly overlap with the data obtained if NAS is a reportable condition. (Comparison was made to Tennessee's reporting systems where NAS is reportable). There is no notable advantage to making NAS a reportable condition, at this time.

7) Upcoming Meetings

- Teleconference on Feb 11, 2015 from 12:30-1:30. Call 1-888-204-5984, code 1982918
- In-Person Meeting: March 12, 2015 from 1:00-3:00 at the Bienville Building, Baton Rouge
- Karis Schoellmann will send Outlook calendar invites to members for the all the scheduled 2015.