

Statewide Quality Advisory Committee (SQAC) Meeting

Monday September 21, 2015

3:00pm - 5:00pm

MEETING MINUTES

Location:

Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA)
501 Boylston Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02116

Chair: Áron Boros (CHIA)

Committee Attendees: Dr. James Feldman, Ann Lawthers, Katherine Shea Barrett, Dolores Mitchell, Amy Whitcomb Slemmer, Dr. Richard Lopez, Dianne Anderson, Jon Hurst, Dr. Michael Sherman

Other Attendees: David Smith (Massachusetts Hospital Association), Eric Linzer (Massachusetts Association of Health Plans), Kristina Philipson (CHIA), Beth Waldman and Michael Joseph (Bailit Health Purchasing, LLC.)

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Boros opened the meeting and minutes from the 7/27/2015 meeting were approved.

MAHP-MHA Proposed Measures

David Smith from the Massachusetts Hospital Association (MHA) and Eric Linzer from the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans (MAHP) presented on their organization's joint proposed measures for provider tiering. The purpose of their presentation was to propose that the SQAC add measures not currently in the MHA-MAHP tiering measure set to the SQMS. In total, the MHA-MAHP workgroup agreed to a set of 41 measures for tiering providers for merged market products. Of those 41 measures, 21 are not currently in the SQMS. They also noted that there are 7 measures in the SQMS that CMS wills retire. MAHP and MHA also reviewed the multi-year process the organizations went through to select these measures.

Kristina Philipson presented the evaluations of the proposed measures. The measure evaluations were completed using the tool developed by the SQAC. All proposed measures passed the evaluation.

Chair Boros asked the SQAC for a vote to add the 21 measures to the SQMS. The motion was put forward and it passed unanimously.

SQAC Priority Areas

Beth Waldman presented recommendations for five SQAC quality priority areas:

- Appropriateness of Facility Based Care
- End of Life Care
- Maternity Care
- Opioid Use
- Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care

SQAC members discussed the different areas and, based on their discussion, decided that they did not wish to narrow the list any further. Chair Boros noted that CHIA is currently measuring and analyzing hospital readmission rates, which falls under the Appropriateness of Facility Based Care. He said CHIA can take a leadership role in implementing that priority area. He asked the SQAC members to consider the priorities area(s) for which they can take a leadership role or assist in implementation.

Next Steps

At the next SQAC meeting, the SQAC will discuss potential implementation steps for the quality priority areas, the annual updates to the SQMS, and the SQAC final report.