**MHDO**

Maine Health

Data Organization

**Information │ Insight │ Improvement**

**MINUTES**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

151 CAPITOL STREET

AUGUSTA, MAINE

THURSDAY, SEPTMEBER 6, 2018

The meeting of the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) Board of Directors began at 9:20 a.m. with the following Board members present: Neil Korsen, (Chair), Anne Head (Vice-Chair), Joel Allumbaugh, Andy Ellis, Lisa Harvey-McPherson, Sandy Parker, and David Regan. Ronald Watson attended via conference call. Absent members were: Peter Gore and Colin McHugh. Also in attendance were Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director and Deanna White, Agency Assistant Attorney General.

**Chair Report**

Vote to approve Board Minutes - A motion was made and seconded to accept the June 7, 2018 MHDO Board minutes as written. Motion carried.

Review of June 7, 2018 Board Retreat - Neil summarized the key highlights from

the June retreat. Once Karynlee completes a final review of the notes provided to her by the facilitator, she will distribute them to the Board.

Status of Board Appointments - The Board received a handout showing the current Board members’ terms. (refer to handout). Two members’ terms have expired and although they have not been reappointed they are continuing to serve on the Board. Andy Ellis stated that internal discussions are taking place to nominate someone to fill his Third-party Payer seat. Karynlee will follow-up with the Peter Gore, Employer representative for plans regarding his seat. The Board discussed ideas for an employer representative and Karynlee will talk to the president of the Healthcare Purchaser Alliance of Maine.

Data Use Case - Southern Maine Agency on Aging - Neil introduced a project that Southern Maine Agency on Aging is working on that has led them to the MHDO for hospital data. The purpose of the project is to measure the annual utilization of emergency departments for unintentional injuries related to falls for older adults. In other words, how many ER visits are related to falls, specifically for older adults. One of the goals of the project is to use this information to help educate providers, payers, and consumers on falls prevention programs that have proven to be effective in reducing the number of falls and fall-related injuries. Karynlee summarized the customized data set MHDO has produced for this data request. The work that MHDO did on developing the customized data set allowed this user to access information that they can manage vs. a big data set that they do not have the resources and or capacity to manage.

Karynlee informed the Board of several requests from approved MHDO data users specific to linking the MHDO claims data with the cancer registry. Karynlee has contacted the Director at the Maine Cancer Registry to discuss the best path forward for linking this data internally. Karynlee asked the board if there were any concerns with the approach and there were none raised.

Karynlee was asked to speak before a subcommittee of the Task Force on Health Care Coverage for All of Maine. She presented an overview of the data that the MHDO collects and publicly reports per the requirements in the MHDO governing statute section 8712. The subcommittee asked MHDO to produce a using the commercial claims data that looks at the 25 highest cost procedures for both inpatient and outpatient, and to break it down by market segment, showing volume, payments and geography. Karynlee will send the board a copy of the interactive report and post in the website when it is complete.

**Executive Director Report**

MHDO & HSRI Contract Amendment - Karynlee informed the Board that the last contract with HSRI has been approved through November 2022. She is forming an internal work group to begin the task of drafting the scope of work for the request for proposal (RFP) to be released in the fall of 2021.

Karynlee also apprised the Board of an issue regarding the new costs, $13,460/year, beginning this year, associated with accessing the MS-DRG (which is the CMS product) that the MHDO had been accessing for years (at no costs) to calculate DRG’s in the hospital data. MHDO will need to amend the contract with HSRI to include the costs associated with accessing the MS-DRG. Board approved the request to amend the contract.

Review Highlights of CompareMaine 6.0 Release - Karynlee reviewed the key highlights of the updates associated with the upcoming release (refer to handout). CompareMaine V 6.0 will go live later this month- going forward plan is cost and quality updates will be made 2x per year for release in the months of September and March going forward). There are over 26,000 costs data points on CompareMaine. The largest payers have confirmed the accuracy of the cost data on CompareMaine. There are 25 estimates that we have been asked to suppress until the parties work out any outstanding issue(s) with the estimate. The goal is to resolve the issues with the 25 estimates by the end of this year.

Status of MHDO Data Releases - MHDO is scheduled to release Q22018 APCD data the first week of October (release includes second quarter 2018 commercial and MaineCare data, and fourth quarter 2017 Medicare data).

The release of Q12018 hospital data has been delayed due to one hospital having internal issues with their new electronic medical records system. The data has now been submitted and has passed all validations. We are working on a release date being for October.

Status of LD 1406 Section 1 - Karynlee reviewed the new Rx reporting requirements (refer to handout). The new Rx report will be created in Tableau and put on CompareMaine. There was a discussion regarding distinguishing in the report between brand name, generic drugs, and combining brand name and generic drugs. The Board agreed that all three categories should be included.

Update on SAMHSA 42 CFR Part 2 – Karynlee reminded the board that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued the final rule to update the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records, 42 CFR Part 2 which became effective as of March 21, 2017. Karynlee reported that she just learned that SAMHSA concurrently issued a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking that proposed additional clarifications to the part 2 regulations as amended by the final rule.  Questions were raised by commenters on the proposed rule that highlighted varying interpretations of the 1987 rule's restrictions on lawful holders and their contractors and subcontractors' use and disclosure of part 2-covered data for purposes of carrying out payment, health care operations, and other health care related activities.

Karynlee reported that the impact of the clarifications made to the rule to the MHDO is that CMS/ResDAC is no longer suppressing claim lines containing SUD-related codes prior to releasing Medicare claims file to the MHDO effective for files shipped or extracted after 5/22/17.  MHDO is looking into the process and expense associated with requesting the missing records, in the form of “gap” files for those files where the ResDac filter was applied before the files were sent to MHDO. Karynlee also reported that the MHDO is applying the CMS/ResDAC filter to both Medicare and MaineCare data to suppress claim lines containing SUD-related codes prior to releasing MHDO APCD data to authorized MHDO data users.  This data is then stored in its own protected database and may be available to authorized MHDO data users under the terms and conditions of payment, health care operations and other health care related activities.

**Maine Quality Forum (MQF)**

The MQF Board authorized Karynlee to go out to bid for a tool to help with reporting quality data. She is working with Muskie on this and they are close to having an outline for an RFP, in hopes to get out by end of this year.

Karynlee informed the Board that they are working to include in their existing training module, training for long term care nurses. The Feds are also coming out with something to replace this training that offers credits.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was provided.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.