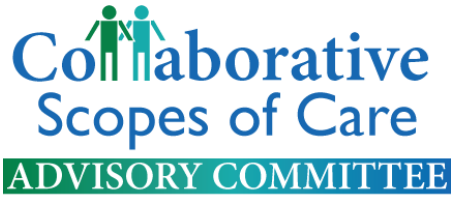

MEETING NOTES 11/18/08

ATTENDANCE

Governor-appointed voting members

- Ned Calonge, MD, Chair, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Public Health and Environment
- Steven Holt, MD, Obstetrician/Gynecologist
- Barbara Hughes, RN, Certified Nurse Midwife
- Alex Slucky, MD, Anesthesiologist
- Douglas Warnecke, RN, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- Shirley McKenzie, RN, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
- Karen Tomky, RN, Family Nurse Practitioner
- Susan Townsend, MD, Pediatrician and Neonatologist
- Luke Casias, MD, Family Medicine Physician
- Susan Miller, DORA
- Steve Kudebeh, PA-C
- Jeanne Salcetti, DDS, Dentist
- Helen Lester, Registered Nurse
- (phone) Mark Patterson, Registered Dental Hygienist

Governor-appointed ex-officio members

- Cassidy Smith sat in for Sandeep Wadhwa, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Medicaid Program Director, HCPF
- Ellen Roberts, Colorado State Representative

Guests

- Tay Kopanos, Colorado Nurses Association
- Edie Busam, Aponte and Busam
- Sara Odendahl, Aponte and Busam
- Carol Goddard, Colorado Academy of PAs
- Gail Finley, Colorado Hospital Association
- Colleen Church, The Colorado Health Foundation
- Greg Maloney, CMS
- Michael Boyson, CHI
- Jessica Jordan, CHI

Colorado Health Institute staff

- Jessica Waclawski, Research Assistant
- Claire Brockbank, Consultant
- Deborah Houten, Consultant

Welcome, Introductions and Comments

After introductions of those attending the meeting, Mr. Warnecke began the discussion of the new CRNA article (Silber et al.) that was added to the CRNA review. He felt the article was not valid due to the extremely high death rate reported which he attributed to the 30-day mortality window used by study researchers which is an extremely long time to account for anesthesia-related mortality. He also stated that the study did not directly compare difference between anesthesiologists and CRNAs because there were several noted vagaries in the Medicare billing data which compromised one's ability to discern between providers. Dr. Slucky noted that the methodology of the Silber et al. study was comparable to another study (Pine et al.) included in the previous CRNA review. Dr. Calonge suggested that a fourth reviewer be brought in to score the article.

As the committee looks forward to next meeting where an initial draft of the final report will be provided, Dr. Calonge asked whether first drafts should remain confidential in terms of distribution to the public. A motion was made by Ms. Hughes to keep the drafts confidential and internal to the advisory committee but that members could discuss ideas with their peers. Ms. Tomky seconded the motion. Dr. Townsend abstained and there were no dissenting votes.

Discussion of physician assistant evidence-based review findings

Jessica Waclawski reviewed the findings of the Physician Assistant (PA) literature review. She noted that there were 9 articles reviewed, with 3 of 9 also included in the APN literature review. She explained the challenge of finding current PA research since most studies were more likely to be conducted in the 1970's. Mr. Kudebeh mentioned that the AAPA has had several discussions about the need to conduct further research on the practice settings and efficacy of PAs as non-physician extenders. Jess noted that the dearth of findings was not surprising given that PAs practice under the Medical Practice Act and under a well-defined set of protocols with a supervising physician. Committee members discussed the education and training of PAs and the influence of the restricted number of PAs a physician can supervised. The committee asked if further information could be collected from other states that allow a physician to supervise more than two PAs which is the Colorado requirement.

Discussion of models of care

Jessica Waclawski apologized for the late delivery of the Models of Care document, explaining that it was necessary to first ensure that all of the literature reviews were completed since this section acts to tie together the findings and synthesizes many of the discussions that have occurred. She requested that the committee to keep in mind that the overarching policy issue in the governor's executive order was that of increasing access to care in rural and underserved areas of the state.

After reviewing the tables in the document, Dr. Salcetti noted that the dental therapist model works well in Alaska because of the geographic barriers in the state but that adverse events do occur due to the unsupervised practices of these dental therapists. Mr. Patterson responded that until a way is found to increase the number of dentists serving in rural areas, the models referenced in the document should to be kept on the table. Dr. Calonge noted that these models have not yet been evaluated in the lower

48 states but that they should be left in the report because of the increased interest in them by dental schools and other states.

Jessica summarized the pilot studies occurring in Colorado, explaining that a table comparing overlapping competencies of dentists, nurses, and physicians was available. She explained that several models are using cross-training to prepare physicians and non-physician providers as oral health care screeners for preventive early intervention care for infants ages birth to three. The committee liked the models that combined medical providers with oral health thus encouraging the comprehensive medical home concept. The committee suggested that CHI use the approach taken with the Models of Oral Health Care and apply it to the section on Models of Systemic Health Care. Ms. Tomky asked that CHI include a broader discussion on independent practicing APNs when developing the Systemic Health Care Models. She had attended a meeting hosted by the Colorado Nurses Association where the collaborating relationship APNs have with physicians was discussed. She noted that APNs need to maintain a collaborating relationship with a physician but that it should not be mandated in the Nurse Practice Act. The Mundinger et al. articles (2000 and 2004) were mentioned as examples of the evidence basis for independently practicing APNs, although the generalizability of the studies reviewed was questioned.

Additional Meeting

Dr. Calonge proposed that the committee schedule an additional meeting in order to provide enough time to properly review the report. The committee agreed to meet on December 10th, from 11am-1pm.

Public Comment and Adjournment

There was no public comment.

Next Meeting

Next meeting date: December, 4th 2008, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Lunch will be provided to members, location to be determined.