

NH Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Council Meeting

Monday, April 15, 2019; 3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Council members present:

Chair David Strang, MD, NH Medical Society (NHMS)
Stephen Crawford, DVM, Board of Veterinary Medicine (BOVM) (via phone)
David DePiero, NH Hospital Association (NHHA)
Gil Fanciullo, MD, NH Board of Medicine (BOM)
Kate Frey, New Futures
Sean Gill, NH Attorney General's Office, Dept. of Justice (DOJ)
Dennis Hannon, DDS, NH Board of Dental Examiners
Joseph Harding, NH Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Nicole Harrington, Commissioner, NH Board of Pharmacy (BOP)
Eric Hirschfeld, D.D.S, NH Dental Society
Kitty Kidder, APRN Vice Chair, NH Board of Nursing (ON)
Bradley Osgood, NH Police Chiefs' Association
Michael Viggiano, NH State Pharmacy Associations

Council Members Absent:

Jonathan Stewart, Community Health Institute (CHI)

Others in Attendance:

Michelle Ricco Jonas, Manager, NH PDMP
Mark Cioffi, Analyst, NH PDMP
Joanie Foss, Administrative Assistant, NH PDMP
Kathy Bizarro-Thunberg, NH Hospital Association
Jim Giglio (TTAC) (via phone)
Pat Knue (TTAC) (via phone)

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. David Strang, at 3:07 pm.

Introductions:

Members of the Advisory Council (A.C.) and the public were introduced.

Approval of Minutes:

February 11, 2019: J. Harding proposed amending the February 11th meeting minutes on pg. 2 under "Legislation: 1) HB369" changing "mandate an SUD provider..." to read "mandate a provider prescribing an opiate for a substance use disorder (SUD)..." Second by G. Fanciullo. All in favor.

Motion by S. Crawford to approve the Feb. meeting minutes as amended. Second by K. Kidder. All in favor.

New Business:

➤ **NH PDMP Draft Strategic Plan – Review & Comments**

M. Ricco Jonas and the A.C. members reviewed the Mission and Strategic Goals of the draft Strategic Plan. Changes to these sections were suggested and will be taken into consideration in the final document. Council members were asked to review the “Background and Introduction,” and should feel free to send recommended changes to M. Ricco Jonas.

M. Ricco Jonas explained that the PDMP will be working with the BOP by sending out a notification to pharmacies that are undergoing a BOP inspection, that the compliance inspectors will bring prescription information back to the PDMP auditor for review. This information will be looked at for various errors. The pharmacy will then be given 72 hours to correct this information. Both the pharmacy as well as the uploader will be notified. This will give the PDMP the ability to assess the accuracy and completeness of its data.

Improvement process: A survey is being developed as it was suggested to utilize one annually. K. Bizarro-Thunberg also suggested a readiness survey for EHR integration.

➤ **Program Budget**

The PDMP did not make it into the OPLC 2020/2021 budget. The three current positions were approved for permanent, full time, however the House did not approve any funding. The budget will go before the Senate Finance Committee on April 22nd.

The PDMP was recently awarded an HHS grant. Funds in the amount of \$745,000 over three years will go toward accomplishing items detailed in the Strategic Plan, as well as hire an EHR State Coordinator and two auditor/compliance personnel. Funds in the amount of \$275,000 are designated for advanced data enhancements. Funds in the amount of \$268,000 will be used to assist health care facilities and pharmacies in connecting to the PDMP.

➤ **Chronic Pain Meeting**

D. Strang and other Council members attended a Chronic Pain meeting at the LOB this morning. G. Merchant, President of the BOP, asked D. Strang to discuss with the A.C., whether they would consider a resolution requesting that prescribers put a notation on their opiate prescriptions of “acute, chronic or palliative,” to assist the pharmacist filling the prescription. Participants at this morning meeting felt this would decrease the number of phone calls back and forth between prescribers and dispensers. It was also felt this would assist with patients getting their prescriptions filled in a timely fashion. The issue was discussed with a subsequent motion by G. Fanciullo. Second by J. Harding. All in favor.

This will need to be put into writing for consideration by the regulatory boards and could be announced through the BOP and possibly the PDMP. D. Strang will provide M. Ricco Jonas with a statement explaining the background information that led to this request and subsequent recommendation, to go out to the licensing boards and BOP.

Old Business:

➤ **Legislation Update: SB120 and HB369**

An amendment to SB120 was proposed by G. Merchant, President of the BOP. Part of this amendment included a push for the DOJ to prosecute prescribers for inappropriate prescribing practices. Two work sessions were set up to discuss the amendment and bill and this amendment was subsequently voted down. Another amendment containing language about Program metrics was proposed by G. Merchant last week when the bill crossed over to the House HHSEA Committee. A final decision has not yet been made on this additional amendment. If passed, SB120 would change the A.C. membership by adding two members from the House and one member from the Senate.

HB369 (the bill that would mandate PDMP usage by MAT providers) was amended to read “querying the program database when writing an initial schedule II, III or IV opioid prescription for the management or treatment of a patient’s pain or substance use disorder and then periodically, at least twice a year” (similar to the current requirements for prescribing when treating chronic pain). It has passed a Senate Subcommittee and is on the consent calendar for the Senate. This bill also now contains language (originally in SB120) that would allow the sharing of raw, identifiable Program data with the Dept. of HHS.

➤ **Program enhancements (clinical alerts, prescriber report & mandated use module):**

The PDMP staff is still working on the clinical alert data for the Advisory Council and BOP.

Prescriber practice reports will be sent out in May. The PDMP staff is currently working with Appriss to correct problems with the prescriber “Specialty” data field.

The mandated use model is going live this week and training will begin soon. M. Ricco Jonas is working with Appriss to see if we can get data before the “live” date.

Other Items of Interest:

None brought forward

Non-Public Session:

Not needed

Next Meeting:

Date/Time: May 20, 2019; 3:00 p.m.

Location: Office of Professional Licensure and Certification

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:09 p.m. by M. Viggiano. Second by K. Kidder. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Strang, MD
Chairman