

Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2021
South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting

DOC Members Present

Mr. Brandt Smith, SCMA (*phone*)
Dr. Aunyika Moonan, SCHA (*phone*)
Mr. Samuel Fields, SC DHHS (*phone*)

RFA Staff Present

Mr. Chris Finney (*phone*)
Ms. Sarah Crawford (*phone*)

The February 18, 2020 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Crawford at 3:05 pm. The minutes from the November 20, 2020 regular DOC meeting were presented. Dr. Moonan motioned for approval of the meeting minutes and Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The first application for the release of restricted data was an amendment from Daniela Friedman and Lee Parson with the Office for the Study of Aging titled “South Carolina Alzheimer’s Disease Registry.” The amended request was for the full name and address for follow-up surveys, communication about resources, and for mapping purposes. In addition, case name is requested for use in mailing salutations and addressing envelopes. The Alzheimer’s Disease Registry was established through South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 44, Chapter 36. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the request and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The second application for the release of restricted data was a request by Maria Rodriguez, with Oregon Health & Science University titled “Evaluating the influence of postpartum care on poor obstetric outcomes among Latina immigrants”. The researcher is requesting hospital discharge data, including Emergency Room (ER) visits, to help to understand whether differences exist in ER usage during pregnancy by type of Medicaid (Emergency vs Traditional). Mr. Smith motioned to approve the request and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The third application for the release of restricted data was from Todd Wagner with the VA Palo Alto Health Care System titled “Utilization and Health Outcomes for Veterans with Expanded Health Care Access” and was tabled in the November DOC meeting. The objective of this VA-funded research study is to use all payer hospital data to study the expansion on existing measures of access and show the effect of improved health care access on Veteran health. The research also requested modification to the confidentiality contract in the application. After DOC members consulted with their individual agency counsel regarding the modifications to the confidentiality contract, the DOC decided they were fine with the content of the data request however would not approve the modification of the contract; state privacy laws must be included in the request. Mr. Fields motioned to approve the content of the request but rejected the modifications to the confidentiality contract. Mr. Smith seconded this motion and the final motion was adopted unanimously.

The final application for the release of restricted data was an amended request from Zehra Valencia, a Ph.D. candidate, with the University of South Carolina titled, “What are the Short- and Long-Term Impacts of Caesarian Sections for C-Section Babies and their Mothers”. The original request was approved in August 2020 and the researcher has amended the request to include an additional year of data, additional research questions, a distance calculation for the patient from the hospital, a flag indicating birth hospital and encrypted physician IDs. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the request and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The first topic up for General Discussion was a proposal for RFA to adopt the new injury groupings report developed by the CDC for the standard public injury reports that RFA creates. RFA needs official approval from the DOC to follow ICD-10 groupings developed by the CDC. The new reports are not significantly different from the current,

but they allow for new categories that were not previously available. After reviewing sample reports RFA provided. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the reports but recommended that state total reports avoid county level sizes under five. Mr. Brandt Smith seconded the motion to approve. The modified public injury reports were approved by the DOC.

This concluded the February 18, 2021 DOC call and the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm. The next scheduled DOC meeting is May 20, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

In April a special request for an amendment was submitted by Chelsea Richard, a Ph.D. candidate, with the University of South Carolina titled, "Effect of Maternal Disability Status and Prescription Opioid Use Before and During Pregnancy on Adverse Birth Outcomes". The researcher amended their application to include ACS census indicators, additional hospital characteristic (Bed Size Based on Licensed Beds for the hospital). This amended request originally approved in the May 2020 meeting was reviewed via email. Motions to approved were received from Dr. Moonan, Mr. Smith and Ms. Hall. The amended request was approved unanimously.