

Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2015
South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting

DOC Members Present

Mr. Jimmy Walker
Dr. Shae Sutton
Mr. John Pennington *via phone*

RFA Staff Present

Chris Finney
Wendy Cimino

The August 20, 2015 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Wendy Cimino at 3:07 p.m. Introductions were initiated by Ms. Cimino. She then presented the minutes from the June 8, 2015 DOC meeting. No corrections were made to the June 8, 2015 DOC meeting minutes. Mr. Jimmy Walker motioned that the minutes be approved. Dr. Shae Sutton seconded the motion. The June 8, 2015 DOC meeting minutes were approved.

The first application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Dr. Carolyn Jenkins from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), was titled “Bamberg Diabetes Transitional Care Study”. This application was tabled at the June 8, 2015 DOC meeting. The requestor addressed the DOC’s concerns regarding a Medicaid comparison group and the need for facility ID. Mr. Walker motioned to approve this application without patient date of birth and including a “# of days until procedure” variable be created by RFA staff instead of the researchers receiving admission date and procedure date. Mr. Pennington seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The second application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Ms. Charity Breneman from the University of South Carolina (USC) Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, was titled “Spatial Analysis of the Determinants of Emergency Department Utilization Among Patients with Diabetes in South Carolina”. Dr. Sutton motioned to approve this application. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The third application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Dr. Elizabeth Radcliff from the South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, was titled “Benchmark Reporting for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program”. Mr. Walker motioned to approve this application. Dr. Sutton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The fourth application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Dr. John Pearce from MUSC, was titled “A study of air pollution mixtures and morbidity in South Carolina”. This application was tabled at the June 8, 2015 DOC Meeting. The researcher addressed the DOC’s concerns regarding the date of death coming from the Medicaid as well as concerns regarding the selection of various restricted data elements. Dr. Sutton motioned to approve this application. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The fifth application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Mr. Michael Smith from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC), was titled “Assessing the association between hospital level of care and neonatal-related mortality and NICU length of stay among very low birth weight infants in SC.” Mr. Walker moved to approve this application pending IRB and vital statistics approvals. Dr. Sutton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The final application for the release of restricted data, submitted by Dr. Nikki Wooten from the USC College of Social Work, DeSaussure College, was titled “Military and Veteran Populations Receiving Care in South Carolina Health Care Systems”. This was an addendum to her application that was approved at the February 19, 2015 DOC meeting. Dr. Sutton motioned to approve this request. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded the review of data applications. The first item under General Discussion was submitted by the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) in which South Carolina participates. HCUP requested the addition of the following restricted variables to be included in the data the RFA sends them annually: admission hour (IP), discharge hour (IP) and patient reason for visit (OP). Dr. Sutton motioned to approve this request. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The second item under General Discussion was a notice sent to the RFA from HCUP to notify the DOC about the National Community Cancer Centers Program (NCCCP) U.S. cancer registry data that will be used in conjunction with HCUP data in a project called “Post-Treatment Acute Care Utilization Among Cancer Patients.” The objective of this proposed collaborative research project is to understand the patterns of and factors associated with post-treatment acute care utilization among patients with breast and prostate cancer. Due to HCUP Partner Organization data restrictions, no unique patient identifiers will be involved in this project, avoiding patient identification. The study will utilize a probabilistic linkage methodology to match cancer cases in the NCCCP and HCUP.

This concluded the August 20, 2015 DOC Meeting. Ms. Cimino reminded the members that the next DOC meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2015 at 3:00PM. The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 PM by Ms. Cimino.