

Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2018
South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting

DOC Members Present

Dr. Aunyika Moonan, SCHA
Mr. Brandt Smith, SCMA(*phone*)
Dr. Daniela Nitcheva, SC DHEC (*phone*)
Mr. John Cleveland, Governor's Office
Mr. Sym Singh, Governor's Office

RFA Staff Present

Chris Finney
Sarah Crawford

Guests

Angelica Cristello, MITRE (*phone*)
Christopher Schnaars, USA TODAY
(*phone*)

The August 16, 2018 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Sarah Crawford at 3:05 p.m. Introductions were initiated by Ms. Crawford. The minutes from the regular May 17, 2018 DOC meeting was presented. Dr. Aunyika Moonan motioned that the minutes be approved. Mr. Brandt Smith seconded the motion. The May 17th, 2018 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

The first application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Angelica Cristello, Senior Public Health Domain Specialist; MITRE, titled "The Rural Health Atlas". The study will use the Inpatient, Outpatient, Emergency Department, Home Health and Imaging data housed at RFA to build a web-based tool with analytic and geo-spatial capabilities that will allow the user to see interpretable and actionable information about population health in rural SC. This tool will be a computer based tool that will not be open to the public. Initially this tool will only be made available to the SC Office of Rural Health. Mr. Smith motioned to approve this request with the specification that any individual or entity accessing the site will sign the confidentiality agreement associated with the application. Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously and the DOC members requested a copy of this researchers study once it is complete.

The second application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Christopher Schnaars, with USA TODAY, titled "An examination of severe maternal morbidity".

This study would use inpatient hospital data to calculate severe maternal morbidity (SMM) rates for each South Carolina hospital. Dr. Moonan raised concerns over information being published by hospital and believe this would work against the collaborative relationships that had been built through the SC Birth Outcomes Initiative (BOI). Mr. Smith did not share these concerns and felt that having the information published by hospital should be allowed. It was called to Mr. Schnaars attention that by signing the application, he was agreeing to abide by the attached confidentiality agreement. The confidentiality agreement specifically states the following:

“I will not allow others to, nor will I, publish, either written text or electronic text, disseminate, communicate or otherwise release health care facility, professional and/or private insurer identifiable data without prior approval by the DOC and review and comment by the identified parties.”

Once that was pointed out, Mr. Schnaars indicated that he could not agree to that and would need to have the agreement modified to have that statement removed. The DOC members would not allow the change of the language of the Confidentiality Contract, so this application was tabled to allow Mr. Schnaars to resubmit with any change recommendations.

The third application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Harley Davis, PhD, Surveillance Division Director for the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, titled “Characterizing neonatal and pediatric heart defect diagnoses in South Carolina by diagnosis tools, types, and locations of diagnosis”. This study will utilize inpatient, outpatient, emergency department and imaging data housed at RFA to obtain better estimates of the true prevalence of critical congenital heart defects (CCHD) in infants born in South Carolina. This is legislatively mandated (Title 44-44-10). Dr. Moonan motioned to approve this request with no modifications. Dr. Nitcheva seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The fourth application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Nikki R. Wooten, Assistant Professor; University of South Carolina, titled “HIV/AIDS & Substance Abuse in South Carolina”. This request would utilize inpatient, outpatient and emergency department data for a longitudinal study utilizing linked data for all SC residents (regardless of age) testing HIV+ and/or having a diagnosis of HIV infection between 1 January 1996 – 31 December 2017. This was an amendment to an original request approved in the February 15, 2018 DOC meeting. The amendment included multiple calculations of ages, encrypted facility ID with an Urban/Rural indicator, type of facility and a distance calculation. Dr. Nitcheva motioned to approve this request. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously and the DOC members requested a copy of this researchers study once it is complete.

The fifth application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Rie Sakai-Bismark, MD, Assistant Professor with LA BioMed at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, titled “Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) in U.S.: Assessment of implementation obstacles and application of cost-effectiveness to gauge if action needed for improved implementation”. This request would utilize inpatient and emergency department data to conduct a cost effectiveness analysis of screening from CCHD by pulse oximetry that can be used to guide the investment of healthcare resources. Mr. Smith motioned to approve this request with the following modifications:

1. In place of actual birthdate, the requestor will receive month and year with the birth date flags based on screening dates specified in the application.
2. An encrypted Facility ID.

Dr. Moonan seconded the motion with these modifications. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The sixth application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Xiaoming Li, Professor and Endowed Chair; University of South Carolina, titled “Big Data Analytics of HIV Treatment Gaps in South Carolina: Identification and Prediction”. This request would utilize inpatient, outpatient, emergency department, imaging and home health data linked to multiple other sources to use machine learning techniques to explore, identify characterize, explain and predict missed opportunities for HIV medical care for all persons living with HIV/AIDS in SC. There were some concerns over the number of data sources requested and Dr. Nicheva motioned to table this request and have the requestor supply the full IRB application. The motion to table passed unanimously.

The final application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Zachary R. Seymour, Medical Student; Palmetto Health, USC Orthopedic Center, titled “Hallux Valgus Deformities: Preferred Surgical Repair Techniques and Their Success Rates”. This study will utilize outpatient surgery data to study the surgical incidence and recurrence of Hallux Valgus deformities. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve this request with the caveat that only an encrypted facility ID be provided. Mr. Cleveland seconded the motion. The motion to approve with the specified modification passed unanimously.

The first topic of General Discussion was the modified Community Needs Agreements. The revised Community Needs Application would allow the request of Health Care Professional ID and Health Care Facility ID on all Ambulatory, Imaging and other outpatient service records. SC RFA modified the application to reflect these changes and applications were submitted by Palmetto Health, Greenville Health System, Self Regional and Medical University Hospital Authority. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve this requested change in the application. Mr.

Cleveland seconded the motion. The motion to approve the modified Community Needs application passed unanimously.

The final topic of General Discussion was to be a discussion of creating an approved list of releasable Joint Annual Report (JAR) data element. RFA received a request from Michael Bauer with Optum, requesting the release for SC Hospital Financial Data from the JAR. Staff with RFA had a discussion with Barney Osborne, the VP Finance and Reimbursement for SC Hospital Association. He was going to have a detailed conversation with the SCHA Board and help develop a list of agreed upon JAR fields. This discussion will be continued in the next DOC meeting on November 15th.

This concluded the August 16, 2018 DOC Meeting. The next scheduled DOC meeting is November 15, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. by Ms. Crawford.

Interim Meeting Requests:

Prior to the November meeting, there were two requests submitted that could not wait until the next meeting. Both of the requests come from individuals/entities that have been approved in the past and the requests were very straightforward.

The first request was from David E. Murday with the USC Core for Applied Research & Evaluation for a study titled ‘Indirect Costs of Spinal Cord Injury in South Carolina Due to Lost Earnings: Relations with Secondary Health Conditions and Medical Expenses’. This is a continuation of a SCI Prospective Cohort Study. A request for inpatient data for this study was approved in July 2017. This request is looking at total costs, so it is pulling all available charges data from inpatient, outpatient surgery, emergency department, home health and imaging. This request received unanimous approval from all DOC members.

SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA) through approval via the DOC have been providing inpatient and emergency data to AHRQ for HCUP since the 1990's. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is in place to layout the data provided and how that data is shared. The submitted amendment, is requesting to utilize the data in the Nationwide Ambulatory Surgery Sample (NASS) and to include outpatient surgery data in the ongoing extract. The DOC has supported the release of this data for HCUP projects in the past. This request received unanimous approval from all DOC members.