

Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2019
South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting

DOC Members Present

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

RFA Staff Present

Mr. Chris Finney
Ms. Sarah Crawford

The May 16, 2019 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Sarah Crawford at 3:02 pm. Introductions were initiated by Ms. Crawford. The minutes from the February 21, 2019 DOC meeting was presented. Mr. Brandt Smith motioned that the minutes be approved. Dr. Daniela Nitcheva seconded the motion. The February 21st, 2019 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

The first request for review was submitted by Angelica Cristello, Senior Public Health Domain Specialist; MITRE, titled “The Rural Health Atlas”. The study was originally approved in the August 16th, 2018 DOC meeting. The all payer hospital data will be used 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. The requestor has come back to the DOC to request an amendment to the Confidentiality Contract portion of the application that will allow MITRE to identify health care facilities by name in the web-based tool. No individuals, health care professionals or private insurers, this will be limited to only the health care facilities. This web-based tool is not publically available and is a password protected site. Individuals/partners with access to the tool will submit a signed Confidentiality Contract and that will be submitted to the DOC for final approval. The current approval includes access to the web-based tool by the SC Office of Rural Health Mr. Smith motioned to approve this request as written and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously. The DOC

approved for the Division Director for Health and Demographics, William D. Patterson, at the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs office to sign on behalf of the DOC.

The second application for the release of restricted data reviewed was submitted by Jennifer Runkle, Research Scholar with North Carolina State University titled “Climate change and severe maternal morbidity: interplay between social and environmental stressors”. This request was tabled in the February 21st, 2019 meeting and the DOC requested that the researcher refine their request with more targeted objectives to ensure they are requesting minimum necessary for the study. The researcher refine their study to examine the impact of climate change--a known environmental determinant--on maternal health risks for pregnant women, specifically by investigating the association between ambient temperature and hospital delivery hospitalizations for severe maternal morbidity (SMM). The researcher removed the request to identify the health care facility but still included the necessary patient zip code. Dr. Nitcheva motioned to approve this request as written and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The third application for the release of restricted data was submitted by Khoa Truong, Associate Professor; Clemson University, titled “South Carolina health care utilization among persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias”. The purpose of this study was to utilize inpatient and emergency department data to better understand health care utilization among persons with an Alzheimer’s disease or related dementia (ADRD) diagnosis in South Carolina. The application submitted requests all inpatient and emergency department records for calendar year 2006-2017. There were concerns regarding the amount of data and the lack of restrictions on the data requested. With these concerns, there was a motion to table this request and ask the

research to refine their request with a more targeted population. The motion to Table passed unanimously.

The fourth application for the release of restricted data was submitted by Kristen Seay, Assistant Professor; University of South Carolina, College of Social Work, titled “Child Neglect and Emotional Maltreatment in South Carolina”. The purpose of this research is to utilize the all payer hospital data to better understand the origins, causes, and consequences of founded cases of child mental injury and neglect. Mr. Smith motioned to approve this request as written and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The fifth application for the release of restricted data was submitted by Nicole Davis, Assistant Professor; Clemson University School of Nursing, titled “Addressing Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias (ARD) Health Disparities between Urban and Rural Populations in South Carolina”. The all payer hospital data will be used to examine the variation of health utilization across racial/ethnic groups, between urban and rural counties, and by their associations with ARD types and health-related outcomes. The DOC requested that month, year and day of the week be provided in lieu of the full dates. With these modifications, Dr. Nitcheva motioned to approve this request as written and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve with the specified changes passed unanimously.

The sixth application for the release of restricted data was submitted by Oluwatosin Momodu, Graduate Research Assistant; University of South Carolina, titled “Evaluating Health and Economic Impact of Centering Group Prenatal Care versus Conventional Individual Prenatal Care Programs in Midlands Obstetric Clinics”. The inpatient hospital data will be used to evaluate maternal and fetal health outcomes and financial impacts of group prenatal care (centering pregnancy) model versus traditional prenatal care program in Palmetto Health Care System for the

period of 2015-2018 when the centering pregnancy program was implemented in this system. The researcher will provide a cohort to determine individuals participating in centering pregnancy programs. Dr. Nicheva motioned to approve this request as written and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The seventh and final application up for review is an amendment to a previously approved application that was submitted by Roger Williams, Director of Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing with SC Department of Mental Health, titled “Harnessing Data to Improve Care and Outcomes in a Disadvantaged Population”. The purpose of the original request was to utilize inpatient and emergency department data to examine the impact of race/ethnicity and social determinants of health on adherence, prescriber behavior, and outcomes for a group of patients who have received behavioral health services from SCDMH and are faced with the compounded burdens of socioeconomic disadvantage and serious mental illness. The requestor has amended his application to have the DMH Client ID added to their requested data file. The DOC has concerns that adding this ID will make the file identifiable. The DOC suggests that the DMH pass the additional data of interest to RFA and RFA will attach the encrypted ID and remove all other identifiers. With this modification, Dr. Moonan motioned to approve this request and Dr. Nicheva seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with the suggested modification passed unanimously.

The first topic up for General Discussion was the review of an aggregate report from a previous approved data request prior to the researcher publishing. The requestor, Kevin Bennett, Associate Professor; University South Carolina, has submitted an aggregate county level report with the intent to publish online. The report will include inpatient utilization and emergency department utilization summarized by county and specified chronic conditions. Dr. Nicheva

motioned to approve this request and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

The second topic up for General Discussion was an update on the request for the release of SC Hospital Financial Data from the Joint Annual Report (JAR). The SC Hospital Association is still discussing this information and feels more discussion needs to occur on what data can be released from the JAR. As it stands now, the JAR states that all data collected is confidential. This request is still ongoing and RFA will keep the DOC informed of this discussion.

This concluded the continued May 16th, 2019 DOC call and the meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm by Ms. Crawford. The next scheduled DOC meeting is August 15th, 2019 at 3:00 pm.