

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 18, 2021**  
**South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting**

**DOC Members Present**

Ms. Harley Davis, SC DHEC (*phone*)  
Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher, SRHS (*phone*)  
Ms. Madison Hall, SC Governor's Office (*phone*)  
Mr. Brandon Hulko, Molina Healthcare (*phone*)  
Ms. Aunyika Moonan, SCHA (*phone*)  
Mr. Brandt Smith, SCMA (*phone*)  
Mr. Kevin Tinch, Internetwork Engineering (*phone*)

**RFA Members Present**

Sarah Crawford (*phone*)  
Chris Finney (*phone*)

The November 18, 2021 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Crawford at 3:03 pm. The minutes from the August 19th, 2021 regular DOC meeting and Special DOC Meetings in September and October were presented. Dr. Moonan motioned for approval of the meeting minutes and Mr. Hulko seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Ms. Crawford provided an update on the denied data request from John B. White with Harrison White titled, "Expert Reports for In Re: South Carolina Opioid Litigation" and the resulting subpoena. Legal counsel to RFA submitted a motion to quash the subpoena from the Harrison White law firm for SC Opioid Litigation on November 8, 2021. To date, there has not been a response from Harrison White regarding the motion to quash.

The first application for the release of restricted data was an amendment from David Slusky with the University of Kansas titled "Accessing the Safety Net: How Medicaid Affects Health, Employment, and Recidivism." This request is for all payer inpatient hospital and emergency department data to study the causal impact of access to means-tested public health insurance coverage (Medicaid) on health outcomes for those recently released from incarceration. The request was tabled in the August 19<sup>th</sup> regular DOC meeting because the DOC members had concern regarding the size of the cohort and wanted the researcher to refine the cohort. The researcher amended their request from all adults ages 18-65 to focus on just those adults ages 18-65 found to be incarcerated with the SC Department of Corrections during the time frame of interest.

With this modification Dr. Davis motioned to approve this request and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the amended request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The second application for the release of restricted data was from Vinita Leedom with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, titled “Comorbidities, Well-Visits, and Health Screenings Among Children with Down Syndrome in South Carolina”. This request is for all payor hospital data for children with Down Syndrome identified through the SC Birth Defect Program (SCBDP) database during the calendar years 2008-2020. The request for this data is legislatively mandated in accordance with § 44-44-80. This legislation allows DHEC to access health and medical records for the purpose of surveillance and identification of birth defects in accordance with procedures promulgated by the department in regulation. With this information, Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the request and Ms. Hall 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 J. Benjamin Jackson III, MD with Prisma Health Orthopedics and University of South Carolina School of Medicine, titled “Hallux Valgus Deformities: Comparing Hallux Valgus Repair’s Rate of Recurrence for Surgery in the State of South Carolina between Orthopedic Surgeons and Podiatrists”. The researcher is requesting all payer outpatient surgery hospital data to determine the recurrence rate of hallux valgus following surgical intervention when performed by orthopedic surgeons compared to podiatrists in the state of South Carolina. Mr. Hulko motioned to approve the request and Dr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The fourth application for the release of restricted data was from Lindsey Woodworth with the University of South Carolina titled “Breastfeeding and Early-Life Outcomes.” The researcher is requesting all payer emergency department and inpatient hospitalization data to determine the effect of breastfeeding on the early-life outcomes of infants and children. Mr. Smith motioned to approve the request and Ms. Fletcher

seconded the motion. The DOC members did request a copy of any reports created from this research for the benefit of the council and the Birth Outcomes Initiative (BOI); the motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The fifth application for the release of restricted data was from Christ Green with the MUSC Children's Hospital, titled "Injury Prevention Program Quality Improvement Project". The Pediatric Trauma & Injury Prevention Program at MUSC Children's Health seeks to use emergency department and inpatient hospitalizations data to quantify and describe the epidemiology of pediatric injuries in their primary catchment area (Dorchester, Berkeley, and Charleston counties), informing the development of relevant and appropriate injury prevention activities. This project is not designed to be a research study. This is an internal quality improvement project designed to inform program activities. There is no intention of publishing the final findings. It was clarified for the DOC that hospitals regularly use data through Community Needs Assessment requests for expansion of business services and community planning. Ms. Fletcher motioned to approve the request and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The sixth application for the release of restricted data was from Bankole Olatosi with the University of South Carolina titled "Big Data Science Case Competition: A focus on using data to predict and analyze inappropriate care." The request was basically the same as one submitted at the November 2020 DOC meeting. The researcher is requesting all payer hospital data to be used in a student driven science competition to generate algorithms to answer important questions related to inappropriate care in SC hospitals. Inappropriate care being defined as using hospitals for conditions that should normally be treated in regular office visits, ambulatory care sensitive conditions. RFA will inject "noise" into the data to protect privacy of patients. Mr. Hulko abstained from voting because he serves on the Board of Directors for the Master's program on UofSC Committee. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the request and Dr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

The final application for the release of restricted data was an amendment from Xiaoming Li with the University of South Carolina, titled “Big Data Driven Clinical Informatics & Surveillance (BDDCIS) - A Multimodal Database Focused Clinical, Community, & Multi-Omics Surveillance Plan for COVID19.” This is an amendment to a request originally approved in the November 2020 DOC meeting. The researcher is requesting to expand their study to include information for all clients from DAODAS and all individuals from DHECs (e-HARS) system. This additional client information will allow the researchers to answer specific questions related to COVID-19 pandemic for these special populations. Mr. Smith motioned to approve the request and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request passed unanimously.

The first topic for general discussion was a proposed release of health information from Prisma Health (formerly known as Greenville Health System). Prisma Health was wanting the DOCs approval for utilizing the consent for access to patient data which would allow them the ability to drill down to see who the high utilizers are within Access Health. DOC members request for RFA to seek advice from RFA legal counsel in reviewing the consent form and for the allowability of RFA to provide this information under the current DOC Legislation. Ms. Fletcher questions whether the DOC have the authority to make this happen. Mr. Finney will contact RFA legal counsel and update the DOC when possible.

The final topic under General Discussion was the meeting schedule for the 2022 calendar year. Dr. Davis requested that the meeting time be moved to 2pm. These dates and the new meeting time were approved and distributed to the members.

This concluded the November 18, 2021 DOC call and the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm. The next scheduled DOC meeting is February 17, 2022 at 2:00 pm.