

**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 16, 2023**  
**South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting**

**DOC Members Present**

Dr. Aunyika Moonan, SCHA (*phone*)  
Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher, SRHS (*phone*)  
Mr. Alex Harrell, SC Governor's Office (*phone*)  
Mr. Heather Kirby, DHHS (*phone*)  
Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou (*phone*)

**RFA Members Present**

Sarah Crawford (*phone*)

The February 16, 2023 Data Oversight Council (DOC) meeting was called to order by Ms. Crawford at 2:06 pm. Introductions were made for the benefit of the new representative from the Governor's Office, Mr. Alex Harrell. The minutes from the November 17th, 2022 regular DOC meeting were presented. Ms. Fletcher provided minor corrections and edits and motioned for approval of the meeting minutes with these corrections and Dr. Moonan seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

The first application for the release of restricted data was an amendment from John L. Pearce with the Medical University of South Carolina titled "Air Pollution, Weather, and Placental Abruptio (APWA) Project" This request is for all payer inpatient hospital data to examining the causal underpinnings between outdoor exposures to ambient air pollution and weather and placental abruptio. The researcher has amended their request to include a linkage to the DHEC Fetal Death Certificate data. No additional hospital data is being requested. Dr. Moonan motioned to approve this request and Dr. Diedhiou 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 Kenneth Michael Cummings with the Medical University of South Carolina, titled "Secondary data analysis of MUSC hospital records to assess adult smoking behavior and its impact on hospital readmissions and health care costs over 1-year". This request is for all payor hospital data for patients found in a hospitalization dataset provided by MUSC. The purpose of this request is a retrospective record-linkage study using patient health

information obtained from hospital admission discharge records and the MUSC-Tobacco Dependence and Treatment Service (MUSC-TDTS) registry. Dr. Moonan requested that the healthcare facility ID be encrypted for all non-MUSC facilities, an ID for MUSC be provided and that the researcher restrict the requested hospital characteristics to one. With these modifications, Dr. Moonan motioned to approve the request and Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with the specified modifications passed unanimously.

The third application for the release of restricted data was from Jose Eduardo Cabrero Castro with the University of Texas Medical Branch, titled "Hospitalization trajectories after the onset of dementia". The researcher is requesting all payer inpatient hospital data to identify differences in hospitalization and mortality between different types of dementia, considering sociodemographic and health factors using the South Carolina Alzheimer's Disease Registry. Ms. Fletcher and Dr. Moonan requested that approval be granted pending IRB approval, with the understanding that RFA will not provide any data until IRB approval is received. With this stipulation, Ms. Fletcher motioned to approve the request and Ms. Kirby seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications and pending IRB approval passed unanimously.

The fourth application for the release of restricted data was an amendment from Ana Lopez-Defede with the Institute for Families in Society at the University of South Carolina, titled "Healthy Outcomes Project (HOP) for Uninsured." This request has been an ongoing request since 2017 using all payer hospital data to summarize outcomes for HOP participants who have disenrolled to Medicaid. This amendment is for the addition of the Medicaid recipient number to enable a more accurate linkage to Medicaid data for evaluation of the HOP. Dr. Moonan expressed support of this as SCHA manages Access Health participants that are HOP providers. Ms. Kirby recused since DHHS has requested this evaluation on their behalf. Dr. Diedhiou motioned to approve the request

and Ms. Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion to approve the request with no modifications passed unanimously.

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Up for general discussion was a proposal for adding an ethnicity field to the data layout for the hospital data submitted to RFA. The DOC under Section 44-6-170 has the authority to designate the data elements to be reported by all health care providers. SC Hospital Association (SCHA) is proposing to have the ethnicity field added to the data layout. At this point, there is only a race data field. With a lot of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) work being done lately, SC hospitals would like to have the data field match up to what is contained in their Electronic Medical Record (EMR). Ms. Fletcher stated that Spartanburg Regional is very supportive of this modification to the data collection and inquired about next steps and a timeline for this. DOC members were in support of this modification to the data layout, with Dr. Diedhiou motioning an approval and Ms. Kirby seconding that motion. RFA will investigate the next steps and will report back to the DOC at the next meeting in May.

This concluded the February 16, 2023 DOC call and the meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm. The next scheduled DOC meeting is May 18, 2023 at 2:00 pm.