

State Engagement to Address Opioid Overprescribing and Misuse

New Hampshire Opioid Overprescribing and Misuse Project Advisory Council (OOMPAC) – Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date:

April 8, 2019, 9–11 AM

Action Items:

#	Description	Owner	Status	Target Due Date	Status/ Resolution
1	Council access to secure data environment	Chris Teixeira	Open	5/13/19	In process. Council members first need to provide valid ID
2	Guide on benzodiazepines	Maryann	Complete	4/8/19	Guide provided 4/8 for Council to use as reference
3	Council member bios	Council	Open	ASAP	Council members to email to Chris
4	PCF comments	Council	Open	ASAP	Council members to hold separate meeting to discuss. Date/time TBD
5	Dave to request a meeting with the Data and Evaluation Task Force to see if they might be able to present at an upcoming Council meeting	Chris T. and Dave	Closed	3/18/19	Chris to meet with Data and Evaluation Task Force
6	Change to Bylaw Sec. 6.3 to allow Council members to designate a substitute	Council/ Governor	3/11/19	ASAP	Awaiting decision of the Governor (3/11) 9:15 AM Motion to accept bylaw change (Lucy), Second (Kathy). Motion passed by affirmative majority vote
7	Change to Bylaw Sec. 3 to remove reference to federal members	Council/ Governor	3/11/19	ASAP	Awaiting decision of the Governor (3/11) 9:20 Motion to accept bylaw change (Helen), Second

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#	Description	Owner	Status	Target Due Date	Status/ Resolution
					(Michelle). Motion passed by affirmative majority vote

Key Decisions:

Decision to be made	Assigned to	Due date	Final Decision	Date of Decision	Who finally made the decision
Approval of February and March meeting minutes	Council	4/8/19	Minutes Approved	4/8/19	9:08 AM Motion to accept minutes (Gil), Second by (Jonathan). Motion passed by affirmative majority vote.
Separate meeting to discuss PCF questions in depth	Council	TBD	Meeting date and time TBD; Dave Mara will send Doodle poll to members	4/8/19	10:02 Motion to hold a separate meeting dedicated to discussing the PCF questions (James), Second (Jennifer Patterson). Motion passed unanimously.
Council name change	Council/ Governor	TBD	To be made by the governor	4/8/19: Council	11:08 Motion to change the Council's name to the Opioid Prescribing Advisory Council (James), Second (Lucy). Motion passed by affirmative majority vote.

Agenda:

- Welcome and call to order
- Vote to approve meeting minutes from February and March 2019 meetings
- Presentation from the Data and Evaluation Task Force
- Demo of Performance Characterization Framework (PCF) dashboard (notional data only)
- Preview of analytics
- Next steps
- Closing remarks and adjournment

Discussion:

Call to Order

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Dave Mara called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM. Dave asked for a roll call of persons attending by phone. Dave also noted that council member Jay Schnitzer attended the March meeting by phone due to being in Washington, DC.

Administrative Details and Logistics

Dave asked council members to review the minutes of February and March meetings. With no comments or questions raised during the review, Dave asked for a motion to approve the minutes; at 9:08 AM, Gil Fanciullo made the motion and Jonathan Ballard seconded. Motion passed by majority affirmative vote.

Presentation by Data and Evaluation Task Force

Andrew Chalsma of the NH Department of Health and Human Services presented and provided a handout on the CDC-funded dashboard to improve NH HHS data capabilities. He explained that the effort began last summer and will include tools and training. They have had a lot of data for some time but haven't been able to integrate it before now. There will be a dashboard for data analysts to conduct granular-level analysis, as well as high-level, interactive dashboards for use by executives and the public. The dashboards will integrate various data sources: e.g., insurance claims, Medicaid claims, emergency department visits, drugs and alcohol, population, etc. The purposes of the effort are policy development and public health surveillance. Andrew expects they will have more to show in a few months, and could present again to the Council when they have made further progress. He also noted that the dashboard could be extended for use by other agencies. Comments and questions included:

- Lucy Hodder asked about overlap with the Drug Monitoring Initiative (DMI) – Andrew explained they will feed information to the DMI, and that the process should be seamless.
- James Potter asked whether state law precludes comprehensive integration of data – Andrew explained they plan to push granularity as far as they can, including asking for policy changes as needed.
- Dave asked when the actual integration takes place – Andrew explained that the system will use a daily copy of data that is received; in some cases, data is only received monthly, which will create a lag in those areas.
- There was also discussion of what “client index” refers to/includes, that NH does not have an official provider list like the National Provider List, and that the DMI is focusing more on methamphetamine and street fentanyl.

Demo of PCF Dashboard

At 9:35, Chris Teixeira began a demonstration of the PCF dashboard; he noted that, due to legal issues that are still being worked related to access, all data in the demo was notional only and not reflective of actual data MITRE has received. Before beginning the demo, Chris thanked those who had provided feedback on the PCF document sent to the Council before the meeting, and noted that the Council could spend one meeting discussing what MITRE can and cannot change relative to the feedback received, along with the reasons why.

Chris asked Dave if the Council wanted to discuss the feedback, and Dave opened the question to the entire group. Comments and questions included:

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- Several Council members expressed concerns around the rationales provided with the questions, including that some rationales seem judgmental or contain preordained conclusions (e.g., “doctor shopping,” “pill mills,” etc.).
- Some assumptions need to be revisited, such as the definition of high dose, since NH uses a different guideline.
- The Council’s project hinges on getting the assumptions and questions correct, and the Council wants to be confident in the integrity of any policies developed based on the questions.
- Regulatory boards already exist to deal with provider anomalies; the PCF should not “recreate the wheel” for issues of concern that are already being dealt with.
- One of the goals of data analytics is to be persuasive in getting prescribers to change behaviors; judgmental/“scary” language should be reserved for more enforcement-focused efforts, such as the Program Integrity Task Force.
- The questions should be developed by OOMPAC; also, the questions that need to be asked and the data that is available are two different things.
- Chris noted there are 50 questions now, which is likely too many to review in a 2-hour meeting.

At 9:55, Dave asked the Council how they would like to proceed, and there was further discussion about possible options – e.g., hold a separate meeting, create a subcommittee, have a full-group discussion and then create a technical committee. At 10:02, James made a motion and Jennifer Patterson seconded to hold a standalone meeting dedicated to reviewing the PCF questions; the motion passed unanimously. Dave said he would send members a Doodle poll to determine a date and time. He also noted members need to get feedback to Chris so MITRE can make revisions before the meeting. Chris said he would resend the PCF document as a Word file so members can make changes and comments in the file.

At 10:05, Chris continued the PCF demo, showing Council members some of the dashboard’s features and functionality. He explained that the dashboard is a tool that will accompany the PCF document. Once the legal issues and documents related to data access are resolved, Council members will be able to experiment with and use the dashboard. Discussion topics and questions included what regulatory events MITRE included in the dashboard, whether milestone events (e.g., creation of the NH PDMP) are included, if members can search by specific drugs, definitions related to populations (e.g., hospice patients) and provider specialties and roles, and different ways to view the data. Chris noted that changes to the PCF and the dashboard will likely be an iterative process and an ongoing topic for meetings going forward.

Analytics Preview

At 10:35, Chris presented a preview of data analytics topics that will be discussed in future meetings. He notes that while the dashboard will help the Council explore the effects of policies, the analytics will help the Council explore uses of the data itself, e.g., to discover behavior patterns related to overprescribing, to explore such concepts as clinician cycling and provider of last resort, or to conduct “pattern of life” analyses around the causes of addiction and overdose. Members discussed the relevance of some of these ideas to NH, and that certain patterns that

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appear aberrant in the data may in fact be legitimate. Dave reminded the Council that CMS has asked MITRE to look at certain issues – such as clinician cycling – that may be of less concern in NH. Several members also noted issues related to provider burnout and providers feeling “persecuted” with regard to opioid prescribing.

At 10:53, Dave Mara asked for comments. This led to a discussion related to the Council’s name, specifically the terms “overprescribing” and “misuse,” initiated by James, who moved to change the name of the group; however, this motion was not formally seconded. Issues then discussed included whether a focus on “overprescribing” and “misuse” will provide the most benefit to NH, that the name doesn’t take into account illicit drugs, and that public perceptions are important to keep in mind relative to the group’s name. Michael Auerbach noted that dentists especially are sensitive to issues related to perceived overprescribing.

Dave Mara noted that the group’s name was difficult to come up with initially, and that they could wait until September to change it. Anne Wood commented that the focus on overprescribing is partially related to funding, because the federal government has mandated that CMS look at overprescribing. Dave asked if CMS would object to a name change, and Anne noted that CMS has no authority over the group’s name and thus would have no objection.

There was further discussion about the topic, including whether to make a motion, table the discussion until the next meeting, and explore whether the group’s executive order/charter would also need to change. Jennifer Patterson moved and Lucy Hodder seconded to table the issue until the next meeting; no vote was taken on this motion. At 11:08, James restated his original motion to change the name of the Council to the Opioid Prescribing Advisory Council, to reduce negative connotations associated with the terms “overprescribing” and “misuse,” and Lucy seconded; the motion passed by affirmative majority vote.

Next Steps

- Council members to provide feedback on the PCF to Chris.
- Council members to complete bios.
- Council members to determine date and time for standalone meeting.
- Dave to bring name change to the Governor for approval.

Adjournment

- Michelle moved and Bill Goodman seconded to adjourn the meeting, which was approved by affirmative majority vote. Dave adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

Next Meeting Date, Time, and Location:

- Meeting to discuss PCF questions; date/time TBD.
- Monday, May 13, 9-11 AM; Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, 121 South Fruit St., Concord, NH.

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Council Members:

In Attendance	Name	Email
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Mara, Esq, NH Governor's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health	David.Mara@nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael P. Auerbach NH Dental Society	mauerbach@nhds.org
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jonathan Ballard, MD, MPH, MPhil NH Department of Health and Human Services	jonathan.ballard@dhhs.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Richard J. Barth, Jr., MD, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center	Richard.J.Barth@hitchcock.org
<input type="checkbox"/>	John Barthelmes NH Department of Safety **Bob Quinn, Assistant Commissioner attended on behalf of John Barthelmes, who is retiring	John.Barthelmes@dos.nh.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kathy A. Bizarro-Thunberg, MBA, FACHE NH Hospital Association	kbizarro@nhha.org
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tyler Brannen NH Insurance Department	tyler.brannen@ins.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Bullek NH Board of Pharmacy	michael.bullek@oplc.nh.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Casale NH Judicial Branch	Acasale@courts.state.nh.us
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maryann Cooper, PharmD NH Pharmacists Association	maryann.cooper@mcphs.edu
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gilbert J. Fanciullo, MD NH Board of Medicine	gfanciullo51@gmail.com
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	William Goodman, MD, MPH, FCCP Catholic Medical Center	william.goodman@cmc-nh.org
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Helen E. Hanks, MM NH Department of Corrections	Helen.Hanks@doc.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lucy Hodder, Esq UNH School of Law	Lucy.Hodder@unh.edu
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gordon J. MacDonald, Esq Attorney General of New Hampshire	gordon.macdonald@doj.nh.gov

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In Attendance	Name	Email
	**Sean Gill, Senior Assistant Attorney General, attended on behalf of Gordon MacDonald	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer J. Patterson, Esq NH Insurance Department	jennifer.patterson@ins.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James G. Potter NH Medical Society	James.Potter@nhms.org
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michelle R. Ricco Jonas, MA, CPM NH Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	Michelle.riccojonas@oplc.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jay Schnitzer, MD, PhD VP, Chief Technology Officer MITRE	jschnitzer@mitre.org
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer A. Weigand NH Healthy Families/Centene	jennifer.a.weigand@centene.com

Persons appearing before the Council:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Teixeira, MITRE	cteixeira@mitre.org
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Chalsma, Data and Evaluation Task Force, Director of Data Analytics and Research, NH Department of Health and Human Services	andrew.chalsma@dhhs.nh.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Wood,* CMS	Anne.Wood@cms.hhs.gov

*Indicates participant attended or presenter appeared by phone or VTC