

**NASMHPD MEDICAL DIRECTORS' COUNCIL MEETING:
October 06, 2005**

Meeting started at 8:15 a.m.

Present: Joe Parks (chair, MO); Alan Radke (vice chair, MN); Ken Marcus(CT); Brian Hepburn(MD); Peggy Jewell (OK); Mary Diamond (PA); Robert Davis (PA); Patricia Singer (NM); Brenda Ratliff (SC)

Topic: Best Practices Symposium

Discussion: This year we were unable to have a symposium coinciding with the APA IPS because of funding problems. It costs approximately \$80K to have the two day symposium and business meeting. With pharmaceutical companies' funding of educational conferences under intense scrutiny we will have to think of some creative ways to fund any education or training.

Topic: Technical Papers

Discussion:

1) Excess Mortality in Persons with Severe Mental Illness -- Roy Praschil and Joe Parks have been attempting to get funding for the technical report on mortality and morbidity of the serious mentally ill. Proposals to pharmaceutical companies have been rewritten multiple times and sent to various companies. Currently there is a written commitment from one company, an initial verbal approval from a second and a third is still unclear. All three will have to provide written commitment prior to proceeding. NASMHPD is reluctant to plan any technical report writing meeting without a written promise of funding. Average cost of a technical report paper is \$60K.

2) Approaches to Smoking at State Operated Hospitals -- the Robert Wood Johnson foundation has approved a grant funding a technical paper on this topic that we can proceed with immediately.(See grant proposal attached) an initial survey of smoking practices at state hospitals has been completed(see attachment 2) and a more detailed and less error-prone survey instrument is being prepared with the assistance of NRI.. Medical directors who've expressed interest in working on this technical paper include Peggy Jewell in Oklahoma and Mary diamond in Pennsylvania.

3) Suicide Prevention -- a grant proposal to fund a technical paper on suicide prevention has been submitted to the National Suicide Prevention Technical Assistance Center

Two other topics were proposed for possible upcoming technical reports:

1. Defining recovery using Transformation principles to include EBP, cultural competence, trauma-informed and recovery focused.
2. CATIE study – What it does and does not say.

Action:

- 1) Doctors Radke and Parks will meet with Roy Praschil and Bob Glover to form the technical writing group on Approaches to Smoking at State Operated Hospitals . Medical directors or interested in participating themselves or no experts that could make a strong contribution should contact Dr. Parks
- 2) It was agreed that we would continue to pursue funding for the morbidity/mortality technical report.
- 3)The other topic that drew the most interest was defining recovery.

Topic: Brainstorm on Funding

Discussion: Three proposals were put forward. Alan Radke proposed that the Best Practice Symposium be combined with a technical report meeting focused on the same topic and using the same experts for the symposium and the technical report. In this way unrestricted education grants from pharmaceutical companies could be used to fund the combined effort.

Action: This proposal was accepted. Joe Parks and Alan Radke will meet with Bob Glover and Roy Praschil to discuss if NASMHPD would support this strategy.

Topic: Meeting with the Commissioners:

Discussion: It was suggested that the Council should meet on a routine basis with the State Commissioners. A conjoint meeting overlapping with either the summer or winter commissioner meetings would be most appropriate. Medical Directors are seen as boundary spanners on issues that have both clinical and administrative concerns e.g. trauma. The Council chair would continue to act a liaison to the commissioners.

Action: This proposal was accepted. Joe Parks and Alan Radke will meet with Bob Glover and Roy Praschil to plan a conjoint meeting.

Topic: Conference Calls

Discussion: Joe Parks recommended that the Council have monthly “meet me” calls similar to those of the Adult Services Division. Topics that could be discussed are state operated services’ transformation efforts; work force development, public group practices and Medicare Part D.

Action: The proposal was accepted. Joe Parks will talk with Roy Praschil about setting up monthly conference calls.

Topic: Medicare Part D

Discussion: A protracted discussion about the ramifications of Medicare Part D ensued. Issues of spend down complications; auto enrollment; sign up penalties; state hospital

billing and formularies were touched upon. The role of the state medical director in planning for Medicare Part D was emphasized.

Other Topics Discussed:

1. Criminalization of the mentally ill.
2. 23'59" Bed in emergency departments
3. Stuck populations
4. Definition of the safety net

Meeting ended at 11:45 a.m.