

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD

Data Governance Council

April 5, 2022

2:00pm, via Microsoft Teams

Attendance (Voting Members)

Susan Barrett, Council Chair and Executive Director, GMCB

Tom Pelham, Board Member, GMCB

Cathy Fulton, Executive Director, VPQHC

Lauri Scharf, Manager of Informatics, Bi-State Primary Care Association

Kristin McClure, Chief Data Officer, ADS

Jessie Hammond, Public Health Statistics Chief, VDH

Sarah Kinsler, Director of Health Systems Policy

Others Present

Kate O'Neill, GMCB

Russ McCracken, GMCB

Rebecca Copans, BCBSVT

Jennifer Kaulius, UVMCMC

Andrew Wilcock, UVM-LCOM

Eric Schultheis, HCA

Sarah Nowak, UVM-LCOM

Caitlyn Dayman, UVM-LCOM

Matt Griffith, VAHHS-NSO

Craig Miskovich, Downs Rachlin Martin

Call to Order, Chair's Report

Susan Barrett called the meeting to order at approximately 2:02 pm. Susan provided a brief update on current Board Activities.

Approve October Meeting Minutes

The Council voted (7-0) to approve the minutes from February 1, 2022.

UVM College of Medicine Presentation

Researchers from UVM Cancer Center's Cancer Control and Population Health Sciences (CCPHS) Program shared a recent presentation they put together discussing Outcomes & Policy Research using Claims Data UVM Presentation. Caitlyn Dayman reviewed UVM College of Medicine researchers' requirements for accessing VHCURES data, including IRB procedures how staff researchers request and access project specific data. Drew Wilcock presented research on intensive care unit (ICU) stays in Vermont, including pre-hospitalization period for the participants with continuous medical insurance, and post-hospitalization period for patients who were discharged alive. Drew reviewed some studies used to help understand telemedicine billing patterns and a timeline of telemedicine regulation changes in Vermont. Drew presented charts that showed telemedicine growth in participants in the pre-pandemic period versus during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sarah Nowak presented considerations for patient-provider attribution using examples of primary care visits and cervical cancer screening initiation.

Provider data management/directory RFI

Veronica Fialkowski presented an overview of the provider data management/ directory Request for Information that is currently out for bid. The RFI will help us to understand the current state of solutions for provider data, system requirements and capabilities, and potential costs. Veronica explained reasons a provider directory is a valuable asset.

VHCURES Data submission manual

Veronica Fialkowski presented on GMCB's considerations for updates to the data submission manual, including collecting race and ethnicity data, improvements to provider information, and inclusion of mail-order pharmacy data. We are also exploring the possibility of adopting the APCD common data layout.

Transitioning the analytic file to a public use file

Kate O'Neill presented an update on transitioning the current VHCURES analytic file to a public use file, similar to the public use file we have for hospital discharge data.

Public Comment

Eric Schultheis, Staff Attorney, Office of the Health Care Advocate, Vermont Legal Aid, commented on the potential uses of a public use file, explaining that it is more likely that researchers and analysts would look at a PUF to see how it could be used to support research, but it may be a challenge to develop it for specific use cases. Consider convening potential data users periodically for help with future use cases.

New Business

None.

Adjourn

The Council voted (6-0) to adjourn at approximately 3:25pm. (Jessie Hammond was not present for this vote.)

Next meeting is Tuesday June 7, 2022. This will be a virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams, although the large conference room at 144 State Street in Montpelier will also be available for anyone wanting to attend in person.