

Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry

Minutes of Meeting – April 22, 2010

Advisory Committee Members Present

William Alton Curry, MD, Chair
James F. Cawley, MPH, PA-C, Vice Chair
Dennis J. McTigue, DDS, MS, Vice Chair
Nathaniel B. Savio Beers, MD, MPA
Diego Chaves-Gnecco, MD, MPH
Katherine A. Flores, MD
Stephanie L. Janson, MS, MHSc, PA-C
Sheila H. Koh, DDS, RN
Desiree Lie, MD, MEd
Lolita M. McDavid, MD, MPA
Eugene Mochan, DO, PhD
Perri Morgan, PhD, PA-C
Charles P. Mouton, MD, MS
Lauren L. Patton, DDS
Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH
Harry S. Strothers III, MD, MMM
James A. Thomas, MD, PhD
Barbara J. Turner, MD, MEd
Surendra K. Varma, MD

Others Present

Daniel G. Mareck, MD, Director, Division of Medicine and Dentistry
Jerilyn K. Glass, MD, PhD, Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 22, 2010

The Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry (Advisory Committee) convened its meeting at 8:45 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814. Dr. Curry, Chair, opened the meeting and introduced Dr. Mareck who thanked Division of Medicine and Dentistry staff and explained what the Division was doing with grant guidances as a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) signed in March. He explained that the Agency was in the process of determining changes in the Advisory Committee's responsibilities and functions as a result of the new legislation.

Dr. Glass explained that seven new Advisory Committee members have been invited by the Secretary. Once all seven have completed their Special Government Employee forms, their names will be announced on the Advisory Committee's web site. Thanks were extended to the seven retiring members. There was discussion about the need to finish the Advisory Committee's 9th report this summer because the focus of the November 2010 meeting, with new members present, will be a topic for the 10th report.

Dr. Curry introduced Mr. Tim Dall, Vice President of The Lewin Group, who provided an update of the study he was contracted to do for the Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME) on primary care physician projections by state. He reviewed project objectives, study method, underlying assumptions, and workforce models. After presenting supply and demand projection data based on a baseline scenario, he pointed out how the data would change with alternative scenarios. For example, varying assumptions about primary care providers' retirement age, an expected increase in insured patients as a result of the PPACA, and changes in health care delivery based on the medical-dental home model will alter the projections. He concluded that the projected demand for primary care physicians far outstrips

the projected supply. The current primary care healthcare utilization and delivery model is unsustainable, given current workforce patterns and the training pipeline.

The Advisory Committee briefly discussed its 8th report, making several minor changes to it before it moves on to publication. The meeting's agenda mainly focused on the 9th report. At the suggestion of Dr. Shannon, the draft recommendations COGME is making in its 20th report The Advisory Committee were obtained and discussed. The Advisory Committee felt that some of these recommendations could be referenced in its own 9th report; for example, the first recommendation that policies should be implemented that raise the percentage of primary care physicians, among all physicians, to 40% from the current level of 32%. The members underscored the importance of all four Bureau advisory committees keeping each other informed about their report recommendations so that individual committees don't work in isolation. Such communication may be best via conference calls among committee chairs after each committee meeting.

By request and because both Committees were meeting concurrently, Michele Richardson, Chair of the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice (NACNEP) and Director of BHP's Division of Nursing, met with the Advisory Committee. She described some of NACNEP's recent work. The purpose of their current meeting is to address issues related to the role of nursing in primary care and implications for workforce. She discussed possible collaborations between Committees.

Dr. Morgan felt that the Advisory Committee's 9th report should make broader recommendations and condense dramatically what it currently has recommended. The Committee broke into three small groups to work on various aspects of the 9th report. After lunch, Dr. Thomas reported from the group that worked on consolidating the 9th report's existing nine recommendations. The group felt that four main categories of recommendations existed: pipeline, admissions policy, reimbursement, and mentoring.

Dr. McTigue reported from the group that discussed the legislative changes in the PPACA. Specifically, Title VII, section 748 of the Public Health Service Act was re-designated Training in General, Pediatric, and Public Health Dentistry with an expansion of grant funding opportunities for dentistry. The group felt that the added dental responsibilities warranted a separate advisory committee, to be called Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Dentistry, which would be distinct from a re-named Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine. The Advisory Committee voted unanimously to support the creation of a new dental advisory committee and to write a letter to that effect to the Secretary of HHS.

Dr. Beers reported from the group that examined previous Committee reports for the core mission of Title VII, section 747. They felt that the report should certainly emphasize core values such as care for vulnerable populations, inter-professional education of providers, and population health. They urged that funding be applied to the evaluation of grant programs. The group saw the appropriateness of referring to COGME's 20th report and Mr. Dall's workforce data in the 9th report. Dr. Glass will disseminate COGME's 20 report to members of the Advisory Committee when the report is final.

The Advisory Committee decided to write a letter to Dr. Heinrich, Associate Administrator, Bureau of Health Professions, about the new workforce commission to be formed by the U.S. Government Accountability Office. The Advisory Committee wants to be involved in establishing a working relationship with the commission and wants to nominate an individual to serve on the commission. Mr. Cawley, with help from Dr. Turner, will draft a letter.

The small groups re-convened. Among the reports given, Dr. Patton reported on a recommendation to establish faculty development programs under Title VII, section 748 for primary care dental faculty. Her group recommended that training grants should give preference to applications that target student and resident recruitment from underserved and rural areas, with a special focus on under-represented minorities.

Dr. Beers agreed to serve as Chair of the 9th Report Writing Group when Dr. Morgan retires from the group. Other members of the group are Dr. Mouton, Dr. McTigue, Dr. Lie, Dr. Shannon, and Dr. Turner.

Because Dr. Curry will be retiring, it was voted that Mr. Cawley, currently Vice Chair, would serve as Acting Chair in the interim from when a new member is named to Dr. Curry's seat and the November meeting when new officers are elected.

The meeting concluded with thanks extended by the Advisory Committee to all the members who will be rotating off this summer.

There was no public comment. The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.