



RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH  
Director & State Health Officer

Vital Statistics Advisory Committee (VSAC)  
Vital Records Protection Advisory Committee (VRPAC)  
Joint Meeting  
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 12, 2012  
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

**ATTENDEES:**

**Convener:** Terri Mack, MPH/HAS, Chief, Health Information and Research Section

**Committee Members:**

**Present:** Jonathan Teague, MCRP, Deborah Williams

**Phone:** David Grant, PhD

**California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Staff:**

**Present:** Krista Christian, MBA, Julie Turner, Cindy Tanaka-Fong

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:06 A.M.

**A/B. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:** Terri Mack welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced everyone. No members of the general public attended the meeting. Terri reminded everyone that protocols are uploaded 3 weeks prior to the VSAC meeting and encouraged VSAC members to access files early after they have been uploaded to minimize network traffic. VSAC members can contact the Vital Statistic Unit staff for assistance if they are unable to access the protocols. A few people have expressed interest in VSAC membership. Existing committee members are can provide recommendations for prospective candidates to Krista Christian, Chief, Vital Statistics Unit at (916) 552-9873 or [krista.christian@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:krista.christian@cdph.ca.gov).

The meeting was recorded to assist with the minute taking.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Deborah Williams made a motion to approve the July 9, 2012 meeting minutes. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion. All Committee members voted to approve the minutes.

**D. VSAC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Attachment 1, State Registrar's Response to VSAC Recommendations, is a recap of recommendations from the last meeting.

**E. NEW BUSINESS:**

Five projects were reviewed.

---

The first project reviewed by the Committee was:

**Project Title:** "Improving the Reporting of Race, Ethnicity, and Language in California"

**Principle Investigator(s):** David S. Zingmond, PhD, UCLA Division of

General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research

**Project Type:** New Project

**CPHS Approval:** Approved

**Project No.:** 11-06-52

**Expiration:** June 1, 2012

**File(s) Requested:** 2008-2009 OSHPD linked PDD/Birth Cohort data (select variables), 2008-2009 OSHPD linked PDD/death data (select variables)

**Requested Identifiers:** California identifiers only

**Personal Contact:** No

**Identifiers Released:** No

**History:** New Research Project

**VSAC Discussion:** Jonathan commented that this work is being undertaken pursuant to a grant from the Federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality with OSHPD support.

**VSAC Recommendation(s):** Approve the data request.

**VSAC Motions:** Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend approval of the data request. Deborah Williams seconded the motion.

**VSAC Vote:** Committee members all voted in favor of recommending approval. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

---

The second project reviewed by the Committee was:

**Project Title:** "California Performance Indicators Project"

**Principle Investigator(s):** Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD, Center for Social Services Research, UC Berkeley

**Project Type:** Continuing Project

**CPHS Approval:** Approved

**Project No.:** 04-12-09

**Expiration:** December 7, 2012

**File(s) Requested:** 2009 Birth Cohort File (select variables), 2010 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables)

**Requested Identifiers:** Birth Cohort File (Name, Mother's Address), Birth Statistical Master File (Name, Certificate Number, Address)

**Personal Contact:** No

**Identifiers Released:** No

**History:** Previous Data Request

**VSAC Discussion:** No discussion.

**VSAC Recommendation(s):** Approve the data request.

**VSAC Motions:** Deborah Williams motioned to recommend approval of the data request. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion.

**VSAC Vote:** Committee members voted aye in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

---

The third project reviewed by the Committee was:

**Project Title:** "California Environmental Protection Agency's Cumulative Impacts Screening Method: Indicators of Public Health"

**Principle Investigator(s):** Laura Meehan August, MPH, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment"

**Project Type:** New Project

**CPHS Approval:** CPHS Exempt Research

**Project No.:** N/A

**Expiration:** N/A

**File(s) Requested:** 2006-2010 Death Public use File (select variables), 2006-2010 Death Statistical Master File (select variables)

**Requested Identifiers:** Death Public Use File (NOPI), Death Statistical Master File (personal identifiers)

**Personal Contact:** No

**Identifiers Released:** No

**History:** New Research Project

**VSAC Discussion:** No discussion.

**VSAC Recommendation(s):** Approve the data request.

**VSAC Motions:** Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend the approval of the data. Deborah Williams seconded the motion.

**VSAC Vote:** The Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The fourth project reviewed by the Committee was:

**Project Title:** "Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Internal Quality Assurance Process"

**Principle Investigator(s):** Alfredo Trento, MD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

**Project Type:** New Project

**CPHS Approval:** Requested

**Project No:** Pending CPHS approval

**Expiration:** Pending CPHS approval

**File(s) Requested:** 2010-2011 CA-EDRS Death Data (select variables)

**Requested Identifiers:** Name, Social Security Number, Address

**Personal Contact:** No

**Identifiers Released:** No

**History:** New Research Project

**VSAC Discussion:** No discussion.

**VSAC Recommendation(s):** Approve the data request.

**VSAC Motions:** Deborah Williams motioned to recommend approval of the data request. David Grant seconded the motion.

**VSAC Vote:** The Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending the approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

---

The fifth project reviewed by the Committee was:

**Project Title:** "Tracking Development in Infants at Risk for Autism Spectrum Disorders"

**Principle Investigator(s):** Karen R. Dobkins, PhD, UC San Diego

**CPHS Approval:** Approved

**Project No.:** 11-12-01

**Expiration:** February 1, 2013

**File(s) Requested:** Birth Records (past and present) obtained from San Diego County Office of Vital Records from another study (select variables)

**Requested Identifiers:** Name, Certificate Number, Address

**Personal Contact:** Yes

**Identifiers Released:** No

**History:** New Research Project.

**VSAC Discussion:** No discussion.

**VSAC Recommendation(s):** Approve the data request.

**VSAC Motions:** Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend the approval of the data request. Deborah Williams seconded the motion.

**VSAC Vote:** Committee members all voted aye in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

---

**F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:** Terri asked the Committee to refer to Item F, Recap of Data Requests Approved in the Vital Statistics Unit, Attachment 3.

**G. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no participants from the public.

**H. AGENDA ITEMS:** Terri asked the Committee if there were any agenda items for the next meeting. There were no agenda items.

**I. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:** Terri adjourned the meeting at 9:16 A.M.