



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 November 12, 2014
9:00 A.M.



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

ATTENDEES:

Convener:

Terri Mack, MPA, Chief, Health Information and Research Section
(HIRS)

Committee Members:

Absent: David Grant, PhD., UCLA Center for Health Policy
Research,

Phone: Sun Lee, MPH, Los Angeles County Department of Public
Health, Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD, University of Southern
California, Erlinda Valdez, Board Member, California Funeral
Directors Association

Present: Jonathan Teague, MCRP, Office of Statewide Health
Planning and Development

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Staff:

Present: Terri Mack, HIRS, Henry Montes, Chief, Data Management
Unit, Heather Fukushima, HPS I HIRS, Cindy Tanaka-Fong,
Research Analyst II, DMU, Colin Chew, Research Analyst I, DMU,
Laura Lund, MA, Science Advisor, Public Health Policy and Research
Branch

Public Attendees:

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M.

A/B. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:

Staff and Committee present attending the meeting included Henry
Montes, Chief, Data Management Unit, Heather Spencer-
Fukushima, Health Program Specialist, Cindy Tanaka-Fong,
Research Analyst II, Colin Chew, Research Analyst I, and Laura
Lund, MA, Science Advisor, Public Health Policy and Research
Branch

Committee members on the phone included Sun Lee, Department of Public Health, County of Los Angeles Emily Putnam-Hornstein, PhD., University of Southern California and Erlinda Valdez, Board Member, California Funeral Directors Association. Also present in the room was Jonathan Teague, MCRP, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

Terri made the announcement that this was going to be her last VSAC meeting as she will be leaving the Department of Public Health and has accepted a position at the State Treasurers Office to work with Renewable Energy.

Our next VSAC meeting will be led by Henry Montes.

Terri informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded to assist with note taking purposes. We have reserved a portion of the meeting for public comment.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Emily Putnam-Hornstein motioned to approve the October 8, 2014 meeting minutes. Sun Lee seconded the motion. All Committee members voted to approve the minutes. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The minutes have been approved as distributed

D. VSAC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The State Registrar's Responses to VSAC Recommendations are included in your agenda package as Attachment 1.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Six projects were reviewed.

The first project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "California Occupational Safety and Health Surveillance (U60OH00 8468-10)"

Principal Investigator(s): Jennifer Flattery, CDPH/Occupational Health

Branch

Project Type: Continuing Project

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 13-02-1087

Expiration: April 3, 2015

File(s) Requested: 2013 Non-Public PDD, 2013 Non-Public EDD, 2013 Non-Public ASCD, 2014 EDRS Data

Requested Identifiers: California identifiers

Personal Contact: Yes

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: No Discussion

VSAC Motion: Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend approval of the data release. Sun Lee seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted aye. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol.

The second project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Healthcare Utilization Patterns among Homicide Victims"

Principal Investigator(s): Jahan Fahimi, MD, University of California, San Francisco

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 14-05-1586

Expiration: August 7, 2015

File(s) Requested: 2010 PDD/Linked Death Data

Requested Identifiers: California identifiers

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Data Request

VSAC Discussion: No Discussion

VSAC Motion: Emily Putnam-Hornstein motioned to recommend approval of the data. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol.

The third project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "National Estimates for Inpatient Care, Outcomes and Hospital Effect among Hispanics"

Principal Investigator(s): Amresh D. Hanchate, PhD, Boston University

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No: 13-08-1332

Expiration: October 2, 2015

File(s) Requested: 2010-2011 PDD/Linked Death Data

Requested Identifiers: California identifiers

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Data Request

VSAC Discussion: No Discussion

VSAC Motion: Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend approval of the data. Emily Putnam-Hornstein seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol.

The fourth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Tdap Vaccination Strategies at Preventing Infant Pertussis"

Principal Investigator(s): Pamala Kirley, California Emerging Infections Program

Project Type: Continuing Project with Changes to the Protocol

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 12-04-0119

Expiration: June 5, 2015

File(s) Requested: 2013 Birth Statistical Master File (select variables), 2014 Real-time Birth Data (select variables), 2013 Death Statistical Master File (select variables), 2014 Infant Death Records (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: BSMF (Name, Certificate Number, Address), birth data (Name, Certificate Number, Address), DSMF (Name and Mother's Maiden Name)

Personal Contact: Yes

Identifiers Released: No

History: Previous Data Request

VSAC Discussion: It was brought up that the data was being requested by Pamala Kirley but on page 11, it states data would be aggregated and analyzed at CDC. The Science Advisor (SA) explained that their program is a CDC program, and is part of CDC. Having the data analyzed at CDC, they would not be sharing the data with CDC as the applicant is CDC. The SA told the Committee they could have that confirmed before the release of the data. The SA commented that the Committee has been very cautious about re-release and that we can just confirm that before they release the data for the particular project. The Committee commented that the issue of this Committee is where the record level going. It seems like the data is going to the applicant who is doing the analysis and providing aggregated data to CDC. Three Committee members had no issues or concerns with the request. The SA said it was not a re-release but how about if we confirm that before we actually send the data. The Committee agreed to the suggestion of the SA. The SA's understanding from hearing from the Committee was that it is okay to send tabular data or

analyzed data but not record level data to the entity that was not the original requestor.

VSAC Motion: Jonathan Teague motioned to recommend approval of the data release stipulation of the SA's read-out. Sun Lee seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol with the stipulation that the program confirms that they will not be re-releasing the data as part of their project as mentioned by the State Registrar. The Committee members all voted aye. There were no oppositions. Motion carried.

The fifth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: "Utility of the "Surprise" Question to Identify Emergency Department Patients with High 1-year Mortality"

Principal Investigator(s): Lauren Fine, MD, Alameda Health System

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Pending CPHS Approval

Project No.: 14-01-1476

Expiration: Pending CPHS Approval

File(s) Requested: 2011-2013 Death Statistical Master File (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: DSMF (Name and Social Security Number)

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Data Request

VSAC Discussion: The SA had concerns with the CPHS protocol, and did not see any consent anywhere. Although they are requesting death data, the project identifies subjects while they are still living. The SA did not have a copy of the original CPHS protocol. If CPHS was okay with this, she would not step in and object but she wanted to make sure there was some scrutiny because she felt that they were enlisting living subjects without their knowledge or consent, raising a red flag for her. The Committee stated they were taken back by the

“surprise” question but once you got past that, it seems that essentially in retrospect to evaluation, there was nothing that already has been done rather than undertaking anything that would affect patient care and treatment, which was their argument. The SA says it walks a gray area because at the time they are in the emergency room, they are identified as potential research subjects and recruited in by the fact they asked that question. The Committee brought up that in other states they view that differently, and has to be a very explicit consent that there would linkages to any administrative records.

VSAC Motions: Emily Putnam-Hornstein motioned to recommend approval of the data release. Sun Lee seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted aye. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol.

The sixth project reviewed by the Committee was:

Project Title: “Determinants of Post-neonatal Infant Mortality”

Principal Investigator(s): Emily Oster, PhD, University of Chicago

Project Type: New Project

CPHS Approval: Approved

Project No.: 14-06-1613

Expiration: October 2, 2015

File(s) Requested: 2002-2011 Birth Cohort File (select variables)

Requested Identifiers: Birth Cohort (Address)

Personal Contact: No

Identifiers Released: No

History: New Data Request

VSAC Discussion: No Discussion

VSAC Motions: Sun Lee motioned to recommend approval of the data release. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion.

VSAC Vote: The Committee members all voted in favor of recommending approval of the data request. There were no oppositions. Motion carried. The Committee has voted to recommend that the State Registrar approve the use of the data as described in the protocol.

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

G and H. Public Comments and AGENDA ITEMS:

Emily congratulated Terri on her new position and it was nice working with her on the Committee and would miss her and wish her luck in the next role.

Terri said she would miss the experience and enjoyed with Vital Records and has an awesome staff. She would be working with CAEATFA, a small authority of the State Treasurer's office that provides financing to various renewable energy projects and she would serve as the executive director's deputy, overseeing the work that they do, administratively and operationally.

I. MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Emily Putnam-Hornstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan Teague seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 A.M.