



**Medical Care Subcommittee Meeting  
Miami-Dade Public Library, Auditorium  
101 West Flagler, Miami, FL 33130 and Zoom  
April 23, 2021**

*Approved July 23, 2021*

#	Members	Physically Present	Virtually Present	Absent	Guests	
1	Baez, Ivet	x			Brad Mester	
2	Bauman, Dallas		x		Karla Drummond	
3	Cortes, Wanda	x			Ray Sawaged	
4	Dougherty, James	x				
5	Goubeaux, Robert	x				
6	McFeely, John	x				
7	Palacios, Carlos	x				
8	Pinero, Carmen	x				
9	Romero, Javier		x			
10	Torres, Johann	x				
11	Thornton, Darren	x				
12	Valle-Schwenk, Carla	x			<b>Staff</b>	
13	Vasquez, Silvana		x		Christina Bontempo	Robert Ladner
<b>Quorum: 5</b>					Marlen Meizoso	

Note that all documents referenced in these minutes were accessible to members and the public prior to (and during) the meeting, at [www.aidsnet.org/meeting-documents](http://www.aidsnet.org/meeting-documents). This meeting was held in a hybrid format with some members and guests participating via Zoom while other members maintained physical quorum.

**I. Call to Order/Introductions**

Carlos Palacios, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. He welcomed everyone and indicated some agenda items have been modified for a virtual format.

**II. Meeting Housekeeping**

Marlen Meizoso reviewed the Meeting Housekeeping and Rules presentation (copy on file), which reviewed the revised steps for hybrid meetings to ensure a good meeting environment.

**III. Roll Calls**

Members names were called, and they indicated their presence by voice for those physically at the meeting or chatting "Here" or "Present" in the chat box for members on Zoom. Guest names were called and indicated they were present either via chat or by voicing their presence.

**IV. Floor Open to the Public**

Mr. Palacios read the following: *“Pursuant to Florida Sunshine Law, I want to provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any item on our agenda today. If there is anyone who wishes to be heard, I invite you to speak now. Each person will be given three minutes to speak. Please begin by stating your name and address for the record before you talk about your concerns.”*

“BSR has a dedicated phone line and email for statements to be read into the record. No statements were received.”

There were no comments, so the floor was closed.

**V. Review/Approve Agenda**

The Subcommittee reviewed the agenda and voted to accept it as presented.

**Motion to accept the agenda.**

**Moved: Robert Goubeaux**

**Second: John McFeely**

**Motion: Passed**

**VI. Review/Approve Minutes of January 22, 2021**

Members reviewed the minutes of January 22, 2021 and accepted them with no changes.

**Motion to accept the minutes of January 22, 2021.**

**Moved: John McFeely**

**Second: Dr. Johann Torres**

**Motion: Passed**

**VII. Reports-Question and Answer**

Carlos Palacios indicated that with the streamlined meeting process, reports will not be reviewed at the meeting. The Ryan White Part A, ADAP, Vacancy and motions reports have been posted online at [aidsnet.org](http://aidsnet.org). Questions regarding the report were requested but there were none. If anyone has any questions after the meeting, these can be forwarded to staff.

**XI. Standing Business**

- Letters of Medical Necessity for Phenotypes

*All*

Mrs. Meizoso explained that at the last meeting the Letter of Medical Necessity was updated. In March 2021, the County consulted with Dr. Beal regarding phenotypes. Locally, a letter of medical necessity is needed for phenotypes. Data regarding utilization was shared at the prior meeting and is attached. Dr. Beal shared concerns about the use of a letter for phenotypes given that usage was low. If the Subcommittee wanted to keep the letter, they should consider streamlining verbiage. The Subcommittee reviewed the suggestions and decided to recommend its removal since additional barriers to access were not warranted given low usage. Should usage be unusually high, the Subcommittee can address the issue then. A motion was made to remove the letter.

**Motion to remove the Antiretroviral Assay Letter of Medical Necessity for Phenotype.**

**Moved: John McFeely**

**Second: Wanda Cortes**

**Motion: Passed**

- Letters of Medical Necessity for Testosterone

*All*

Mrs. Meizoso explained that at the last meeting, the Subcommittee suggested reviewing the history of the testosterone letter of medical necessity. A letter of medical necessity has existed since before 2003; revisions to the letter have been made in 2003, 2009, 2015, 2018, 2019/2020 and 2021. The primary concern is to ensure that only clients who meet clinical criteria receive the medications. There were issues in the past with high utilization. Currently, utilization is low. The Medicaid program does not require a letter of medical necessity for this medication. The only restrictions relate to usage for 18 years and older. The Subcommittee decided to recommend removal of the letter since additional barriers to access were not warranted given low usage. Should usage be unusually high, the Subcommittee can address the issue then.

## **Motion to remove the Letter of Medical Necessity for Testosterone.**

**Moved: : John McFeely**

**Second: Dallas Bauman**

**Motion: Passed**

- Work Plan Revision

*All*

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the April 2021 version of the workplan (copy on file) and the assigned tasks. The Subcommittee agreed to the timeline suggested. No business items are available at this time for a May meeting, so the Subcommittee suggested cancelling the meeting. Since there would be no meetings scheduled for May and June Subcommittee members were tasked with reviewing the service standards and forwarding comments for review prior to the July meeting. In July, a brief presentation on long-acting ARVS will be held. John McFeely indicated that lung cancer screenings should be incorporated into the standards based on the Preventive Taskforce recommendations.

## **XII. New Business**

- Cabenuva Update

Carla Valle-Schwenk

Carla Valle-Schwenk provided a quick overview of the Cabenuva training that was held earlier in the week. A copy of the Five Barriers document created by the Department of Health was shared (copy on file). Cabenuva, the newest long-acting antiretroviral medication has been FDA approved and will likely be added to the ADAP formulary at the end of April or early May. In preparation for this addition, a joint training was held with Department of Health staff, ADAP staff, ViiV staff. For Part A clients in Miami-Dade, the County would reimburse for administering the medication if using CPT code 96372, entering this code in Provide® Enterprise Miami data system, and noting this is for Cabenuva®. A team approach (medical practitioner, medical office staff, medical case managers, peers, and outreach workers) is crucial to the success of the client experience with Cabenuva® to ensure the client goes back for monthly injections. It is of vital importance for clients on Cabenuva® to remain actively enrolled in Part A and ADAP. Ms. Valle-Schwenk indicated that she will forward additional information with links to staff to forward to the Subcommittee.

- Anchor Study Update

John McFeely provided an update on the semi-annual conference on the Anchor Study. At the local site 95% of patients screened show signs of being HPV positive. Along with being HPV positive additional qualifiers include being 35 and older who are HIV positives. Screenings take about two weeks to get HRA done, and clients are paid \$100 for visit.

- Substance Use Disorder

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the four documents regarding Substance Use disorders (copies on file). The first document from the FADAA details the rise of substance use during the COVID-19 pandemic in the State of Florida. The second document from CDC MMWR detailed methamphetamine usage in the US. The third document detailed a new NIH study on naloxone and buprenorphine treatment for methamphetamine use disorder. The last document is from SAMHSA the Prevention and Treatment of HIV Among People Living with Substance Use and/or Mental Disorders which is an evidence-based resource guide series. The SAMHSA guide will be placed online as a resource for providers. The Subcommittee wanted to emphasize to the Care and Treatment Committee that substance use treatment is an important component of care especially during COVID-19.

## **XIII. Announcements**

Mr. Palacios announced that all announcements were posted online at [www.aidsnet.org](http://www.aidsnet.org)

## **XIV. Next Meeting**

The next Subcommittee indicated they would cancel their May meeting.

**Motion to cancel the May 7 Medical Care Subcommittee meeting.**  
**Moved: Dr. Robert Goubeaux                      Second: Dr. Johann Torres**

**Motion: Passed**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 23 , 2021.

**XV.    Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn.**  
**Moved: John McFeely                      Second: Dr. Robert Goubeaux**

**Motion: Passed**

Mr. Palacios adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.