



Medical Care Subcommittee Meeting
Behavioral Science Research
2121 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Ste. 230
Coral Gables, FL 33134 and Zoom
April 22, 2022

Approved June 24, 2022

#	Members	Present	Absent	Guests	
1	Baez, Ivet	x		Brad Mester*	
2	Bauman, Dallas		x	Angela Ortiz	
3	Cortes, Wanda	x		Myka Osorio*	
4	Dougherty, James	x		Matthew Tochtenhagen*	
5	Friedman, Lawrence	x		Tatiana Williams*	
6	Goubeaux, Robert	x		Carla Valle-Schwenk	
7	Palacios, Carlos		x	Christian A. Ysea	
8	Pinero, Carmen		x	Nic Zantop*	
9	Romero, Javier	x			
10	Thornton, Darren	x			
11	Torres, Johann	x		Staff	
12	Vasquez, Silvana		x	Robert Ladner	
Quorum: 5				*virtual attendance	
				Marlen Meizoso	

Note that all documents referenced in these minutes were accessible to both members and the general public prior to (and during) the meeting, at www.aidsnet.org/meeting-documents.

I. Call to Order

Dr. Roberto Goubeaux, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m. He introduced himself and welcomed everyone.

II. Meeting Rules and Housekeeping

James Dougherty reviewed the meeting rules and housekeeping presentation (copy on file), which provided the ground rules and reminders for the meeting. He identified Behavioral Science Research (BSR) staff as resource persons for the meeting. If anyone had any questions, BSR would be available to answer them after the meeting.

III. Roll Call and Introductions

Dr. Goubeaux requested members and guests introduce themselves around the room. Staff introduced those members and guests participating via Zoom.

IV. Floor Open to the Public

Mr. Dougherty 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 accepted it as presented.

Motion to accept the agenda as presented

Moved: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Second: Wanda Cortes

Motion: Passed

VI. Special Discussion: Gender-Affirming Care

All

The Subcommittee dedicated time on the agenda for guests and/or Part A/MAI clients to discuss gender affirming care. Nic Zantop, Transinclusive, provided the following input:

- All clinical staff from start (front office staff) to finish (physician) should provide gender affirming culturally competent care. Having negative experience discourages clients from continuing to seek care.
- There is a Transgender Medical Consortium being offered in May. *Information on this item was sent earlier via email to Subcommittee members.*
- SunServe and Transinclusive, as well as other transinclusive organizations, offer trainings to the community to raise cultural competency on transgender care.
- Transinclusive Group and other organization do keep a list of providers to refer that are transfriendly.
- There are legal barriers which cause barriers to housing, employment, or general safety.
- Name changes are time consuming processes, including getting a new ID, and this process is a barrier to accessing care.
- Transinclusive offers technical assistance for providers (e.g., for providers needing help supporting a client undergoing gender transition).
- Transinclusive is joining other community partners such as the Human Rights Campaign to combat legislation that is anti-trans and guidelines forwarded by the Department of Health.
- The current situation is frustrating since there are constant attacks on who we are, how we are defined.

The Subcommittee thanked Nic for the input. Persons wishing to contact Nic Zantop, Deputy Director at Transinclusive Group, may email him at nic@transinclusivegroup.org or call 954-903-1297, extension 101.

Staff indicated they will also be speaking to TransSOCIAL to gather more input on how to improve services.

VII. Review/Approve Minutes of March 25, 2022

Members reviewed the minutes of March 25, 2022 and accepted them as presented.

Motion to accept the minutes of March 25, 2022, as presented.

Moved: Dr. Javier Romero

Second: Dr. Darren Thornton

Motion: Passed

VIII. Reports

▪ **Ryan White Program**

Carla Valle-Schwenk

Carla Valle-Schwenk presented the Ryan White Program (RWP) report, compiled April 2022 (copy on file). In Part A, 76% of funds have been spent, and in MAI, 47% have been spent, but the County is closing out FY 2021. As of February 2022, the RWP had served 8,421 unduplicated clients. Reporting requirements will be sent out and are due by the end of May. The County is still waiting on the final award notice but is working on contract renewals.

▪ **ADAP Program**

Dr. Javier Romero

Dr. Javier Romero reviewed the April 2022 report (copy on file). The report represents the end of the FY 21-22 year. Approximately \$28 million was spent on medications and \$29 million was spent on insurance premiums. Magellan started as the new pharmacy benefits manager, but CVS specialty has been extended until September 30 to allow for other pharmacies to join the network. Information on Cabenuva was reviewed and the breakdown is 50/50 insured and uninsured. A special enrollment period for clients with a max 150% FPL will be added, allowing for clients to enter month to month but this is still in process.

▪ **Membership Vacancies**

Marlen Meizoso

Marlen Meizoso referenced the membership vacancy report (copy on file) and reviewed the vacancies on the Subcommittee. She indicated that anyone is interested in becoming a member, or if anyone knows someone who may be a good fit, to please have them contact staff.

▪ **Partnership Report (reference only)**

Marlen Meizoso

Mrs. Meizoso referenced the Partnership report (copy on file) which was provided for reference only, and indicates a summary of Partnership actions as of the April meeting. If you have any question, please contact staff.

VIII. Standing Business

▪ **Gender Affirming Care Letter**

All

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the draft letter of gender affirming care requested by the Subcommittee (copy on file) which included the input from the prior meetings. Dr. Romero offered a rewording on an item which was included in the draft. The Subcommittee made the following recommended changes:

- “Dear Colleague” as introduction
- Strike “medical” after “Some Ryan White Program”
- Change “Medical Issues” to “Care and Treatment issues”
- Move “Some Ryan...gender affirmation.” bullet under “Care and Treatment issues”
- Add awareness to cover cost of medications by payor source such as Part A, ADAP, or General Revenue after mention of hormone replacement.
- For sake of consistency, either use “transgender” or “trans” instead of both words.
- Add “around transgender care” after “increase competency”
- Move “Care and Treatment issues” up and “Training” down
- Strike “Perhaps” and change to “This should be offered/used in electronic medical records and client data management systems.”
- After “accessing care” add “and is an allowable service. The Part A program is currently working to develop related policies and procedures and program limitations.”
- Move items in “Other” under “Care and Treatment issues” along with two bullet points under “Substance Abuse”
- Add “s” to prescription, delete “drug”, and change “abused” to “illicit”
- Add attachments with location of transfriendly organizations and how a provider can become a transportive organization.

▪ **HIV and medical conditions related to Aging (osteoporosis, sarcopenia, and cancers)**

All

Mrs. Meizoso reviewed the topics for review: HIV and Aging (osteoporosis, sarcopenia, and cancers (copy on file). Articles were provided ahead of the meeting on all items, including a summary highlights sheet. The three

overarching questions to address regarding the topics are 1) What are the issues being faced by HIV and aging population in relationship to the three issues? 2) How to treat the three issues, and 3) What is missing in the Ryan White system related to the three issues? While osteoporosis screening is included in the minimum primary care standards, the question exists as to how often screenings are actually done. Carla indicated that based on the utilization of the DEXA billing code, between 2019 and 2021, between 24 and 34 clients per year received the service. There needs to be more provider education on when to do osteoporosis screenings. Staff will investigate US Preventive Task force guidance to see if there have been any updates on osteoporosis.

Sarcopenia is a fact of aging. Nutrition is important, exercise is important and weight bearing exercises are necessary. The subcommittee discussed how and what should be incorporated into routine medical care.

Guidance on cancers depend on what system is being discussed. Is there a guide on when to do skin cancer screenings? What screenings are supported by data? Staff will check the US Taskforce for guidance and report back for the next meeting.

▪ **Allowable Medical Conditions List Request-osteoarthritis and urology, prostate cancer** *All*

Mrs. Meizoso indicated there was a request to add osteoarthritis and prostate cancer under urology to the allowable medical conditions list (copy on file). Both conditions based on discussions and the literature should be added. The Subcommittee added prostate cancer under the genitourinary category, and osteoarthritis would be added under the revised bone and joint disease (e.g., orthopedics/rheumatology) category.

Motion to add prostate cancer under genitourinary/gynecology/obstetrics specialty and osteoarthritis under bone and joint disease (e.g., orthopedics/rheumatology) as conditions to the allowable medical conditions list.

Moved: Dr. Lawrence Friedman

Seconded: Dr. Darren Thornton

Motion: Passed

IX. New Business

▪ **New PrEP option: Apretude** *Matthew Tochtenhagen*

Matthew Tochtenhagen provided an overview of Apretude, a new PrEP injectable option. The medication confirms adherence with six visits. The first year there are seven visits, since the injection schedule months are: 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12. There is a seven-day pre/post injection timeframe. The main complaint of the medication is injection site pain.

▪ **May and June meeting dates** *All*

Mrs. Meizoso indicated that the survey results on attendance for May and June indicated that there will be no quorum at the May meeting so the meeting will need to be cancelled. While several members indicated they could not attend the June meeting, there should be quorum. James Dougherty would chair that meeting in Dr. Goubeaux absence. Staff will forward “homework” on the HIV and aging piece so allow for comments to be collected ahead of the meeting.

X. Announcements

Dr. Goubeaux indicated that any announcements should be forwarded to staff for posting online. All members are urged to RSVP for the June meeting.

XI. Next Meeting

The next Subcommittee will be June 24, 2022, at BSR.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Dr. Johann Torres

Seconded: Wanda Cortes

Motion: Passed

Dr. Goubeaux adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.