

New Mexico Health Information System (HIS) Act Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**December 9, 2019
New Mexico Human Services Department
1474 Rodeo Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505**

HIS Advisory Committee Members present:

Mark Epstein – Health Insurance Provider (True Health New Mexico) (by phone)
Kristina Fisher – Health Consumer Group (Think New Mexico)
Mike Landen – New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), Chair
Todd Sandman – Health Care Provider (Presbyterian Health Services)
Janice Torrez – Health Insurance Provider (BCBS) (by phone)
Bonnie White – Health Care Organization (UNMH) (by phone)

Members not present:

Robert Doucette – Office of Superintendent of Insurance
Jeff Dye – New Mexico Hospital Association
Nadini Kuehn – Health Policy (by phone)
Bill Patten – Health Care Organization (Taos Holy Cross)
Russell Toal – New Mexico Human Services Department
Judy Williams – Health Data
Anthony Yepa – Health Consumer

Other Attendees:

Brenna Gaytan – Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico (by phone)
Keaton Hughes – Community & Health Systems Epidemiology Bureau, DOH
Dan Lanari – Health Care Organization (NMHA) (by phone)
Ryan O'Connor – New Mexico Human Services Department (for Russell Toal, by phone)
Tony Pedroncelli – Western Skies Community Care (by phone)

Review of Meeting Minutes from November 5 meeting

- Correction: Janice Torrez was present at the November 5 meeting.
- Minutes approved.

Review Agenda

- Agenda Approved.

APCD Updates (Mike Landen)

- Staffing

- IT Project Manager hired. Will begin work in a week.
- Public health data scientist position approved by the State Personnel Office. Next step is to create a new position to post and hire.
- Also have a health systems epidemiologist we are going to hire.
- NAHDO and APEX have been helping with stakeholder engagement.
- Funding
 - Going to IT PCC – we are currently in the APCD initiation phase and proposing they move APCD to planning phase. Proposed an additional \$900,000 that will take us to implementation. This is an IT budget request but will ultimately be part of DOH budget if it makes it that far.
 - Have also been talking with HSD and Medicaid for maintenance funding through the Medicaid match process.
- There may be a separate RFP for website development.
- Keaton provided an update on stakeholder engagement.
 - Comprised of a survey and four focus groups each at 1.5 hours long. Focus groups were mainly listening sessions with limited input from DOH. Got a lot of feedback.
 - The purpose of the December 13 stakeholder engagement meeting is to start answering questions collected during the focus groups.
 - A HIS Act member asked about the product of the focus groups/survey. The results will be to support the technical design RFP and a report will be produced documenting input people provided. Also want to see where the groups overlap.
- RFP for technical design
 - Working with NAHDO to develop a draft RFP focused on scope of work aspect of it. Will have some mandatory and some optional items. It is a long scope of work. In general, it has a focus on data management, analyses and dissemination.
 - Also exploring acquisition of Indian Health Service (IHS) data.
 - Workman's Comp goes through major carriers so have to find a way to identify them.
 - Technical design vendors have been working across the country and have a standard menu of services.
 - Draft rules at the same time of RFP process so that we will be consistent with implementation. Rules can be finalized after we select our vendor. Still looking at implementing the APCD by next calendar year.
 - A member asked if IHS issues are different from other federal (e.g., VA) issues. Federal agencies do not have to follow state laws. Have to think about how to acquire IHS equivalent claims.
 - Hope to get RFP out by the end of this year.
 - On Centennial MCO claims data, the assumption is that we'll get them from HSD. With Miser, expect enhanced data reporting. Systems integrator will be a good place to get Centennial claims.
 - Onn federal rules on operability, RFP and rulemaking vendor need to work within that framework.
 - A timeline for the RFP process was discussed (scoring, selection of vendor). The goal at the moment is to select a vendor by the end of February/spring.

Washington Healthcare Compare Public Transparency Website presentation (Keaton Hughes)

- In general, committee members liked the consumer-facing aspect, plain language, clean and easy to digest presentation of information, cost and quality being on the same page, regional variation, that the site has enough information to begin a conversation, being able to compare outpatient procedures, and links to the insurance website.
- Some concern was expressed about the ranks (average, best or worse) because each indicator has their own context to consider. Also noticed that Medicare data is not available. Why?
- Members want to know of any feedback by website users, and how long the website has been up. Also, what are their sources of data, timeliness, where is it going, how are they measuring effectiveness, a description of their journey, and lessons learned.
- A member asked, "How do you translate APCD cost and quality and regional variation ("mountain of data") into a consumer-based website?"
- Another said, "Don't let perfection be the enemy of the good."
- Is this the sort of website we want in New Mexico? The goal for the website is to try to plan in parallel with data acquisition. DOH will be contracting with someone to create a public-facing website. Will probably be an optional piece and may use two vendors.

Next Steps

- Stakeholder engagement meeting on December 13. Look into why Janice Torrez was not invited to participate in a focus group.
- APCD technical design RFP hopefully published by the end of this year and contractor on board by spring.
- Move into legislative session, get good C2 reviews and implementation funding.
- APCD up and going by the end of calendar year.
- Finalize draft rules, get them out, and get in sync with vendor.
- Aim for Medicaid maintenance funding approval.
- Try to get a presentation from Washington on their website via Zoom meeting for the next HIS Act Advisory Committee.

Next Meeting

- Monday, March 2 , 1:30-3:00 pm in Albuquerque at the New Mexico Hospital Association