



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
4300 CHERRY CREEK DRIVE SOUTH  
DENVER, COLORADO 80246

**COLORADO HEALTH FACILITY  
ACQUIRED INFECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 15, 2011  
MINUTES**

*Note: These minutes are a summary of the proceedings and motions of the November 15, 2011, meeting of the Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infections Advisory Committee.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Heather Gilmartin, Co-Chair, called the November 15, 2011, Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infections Advisory Committee (CHFAIAC) to order at approximately 2:05 p.m. at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, Colorado, 80246.

**Members Present (In Person)**

Ms. Heather Gilmartin (Co-Chairperson); Ms. B. Burton; Mr. Paul Poduska; Mr. Kerry O'Connell and Ms. Peggy Sabell.

**Members Present (via teleconference)**

Ms. Denise de Percin; Ms. Beth Reasoner; Dr. Allison Sabel-Soteres and Ms. Cindy Thistel.

**CDPHE Staff Present**

Ms. Tara Janosz; Dr. Sara Reese; Ms. Karen Rich; Dr. Wendy Bamberg; Mr. Kirk Bol; Ms. Katie Conrath; Ms. Idana Espinoza and Ms. Alexa Nordic (minutes recorder).

**Guests and Visitors Present**

Ms. Crystal Berumen (Colorado Hospital Association); Ms. Deanna Curry (Colorado Foundation for Medical Care) and Ms. Chloe Benson (Colorado Consumer Health Initiative).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Heather Gilmartin presented the draft minutes from the October 25, 2011 meeting of the Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infections Advisory Committee.

***MOTION***

**MOVED BY PAUL PODUSKA, SECONDED BY B. BURTON, TO APPROVE THE DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 25, 2011, MEETING OF THE COLORADO HEALTH FACILITY ACQUIRED INFECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

***MOTION CARRIED***

**MOTION PASSED**

**MISSION FOR CHFAIAC  
AND PATIENT SAFETY**

*Sara Reese*

The committee voted on the mission statements that were discussed last month. The updated statements addressed the committee's concern regarding giving direction to CDPHE staff and the community. The correction states that the committee will

provide input. The mission statement for CHFAIAC will be displayed on the website and in the annual report. The statement will be evaluated and reviewed on an annual basis to ensure objectives are being met.

**RECRUITMENT FOR  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Sara Reese*

The committee has two current members that will be resigning for their positions on the committee at the end of the year. The combination of the resignation of two members and the expanded mission of the committee warrant the need for recruitment of new members. The committee is hoping to attract another rural IP. Sara will make an announcement at APIC encouraging IPs to apply. Letters to CEO's of hospitals will also be sent. Announcements will also run in the CHA and CFMC newsletters. Members of the committee must be certified.

**REMOVING HERNIAS IN  
HOSPITALS AND ADDING  
COLONS**

*Sara Reese*

Sara presented the results of the decision making tool the committee is utilizing to aid in the determination of reporting metrics. The survey scored colons the highest, breast procedures second and hernias the lowest.

**VOTE**

**THE COMMITTEE VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REMOVE SSI REPORTING FOR HERNIA PROCEDURES IN THE HOSPITALS AND ADD THE SSI REPORTING FOR COLON PROCEDURES STARTING JANUARY 1, 2012.**

The committee will publicize the decision making tool to encourage transparency in how the committee determines reporting metrics. The committee may request that hospitals and ASCs also complete the survey in the future when new metrics are needed. Process measures may also be added for future reporting to incorporate more rural facilities since the number of procedures completed doesn't meet the minimum for inclusion in the Annual Report. Crystal suggested aggregating the data over a 3-year period as CHA does for their reports. The committee will discuss options for presenting rural facility data at a later meeting.

**SSI VALIDATION STUDY  
UPDATE**

*Tara Janosz*

Tara presented the status of the validation study. Two facilities have been visited and there are 10-15 more facilities scheduled. The hospitals and ASCs that are included in the study were chosen based on which had reported hernia SSIs between January 1 – June 30, 2010. Additional facilities were added that had a high volume of procedures with no reported SSIs. A random sample of 4 inpatient and 4 outpatient hernia procedures with no SSI reported was taken for hospitals. Approximately 5 ASCs with no reported SSIs were added to the study for validation purposes. 41 total facilities will be validated.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:  
ANNUAL REPORT DATA  
AND FORMAT OPTIONS**

*Sara Reese, Tara Janosz &  
Kirk Bol*

The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is in Colorado Revised Statute 246-402(3)(a)(III). The executive session was called to review data that will be used in the Spring Bulletin. The topic and information being discussed are confidential in nature and are protected under Colorado Revised Statute §25-3-605.

Heather Gilmartin called for a motion to discuss the confidential data in executive session rather than in an open meeting.

**MOTION**

**MOVED BY PAUL PODUSKA, SECONDED BY B. BURTON, TO BEGIN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION PASSED**

Executive session began at 2:37 p.m. and was attended by: Heather Gilmartin, B. Burton, Paul Poduska, Kerry O'Connell, Peggy Sabell, Beth Reasoner (via teleconference), Denise de Percin (via teleconference), Allison Sabel-Soteres (via teleconference), Cindy Thistel (via teleconference), Tara Janosz, Sara Reese, Karen

Rich, Kirk Bol, Katie Conrath, Idana Espinoza and Alexa Nordic.

During the executive session, the committee reviewed data presented by Sara Reese, Tara Janosz and Kirk Bol.

By unanimous consent, the executive session was adjourned and the meeting was returned to open session at 3:33 p.m.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES/  
NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

Karen notified the committee that IPs are requesting a decision from the committee on how long after beginning employment they have before they need to be certified. The issue is defining eligibility. CBIC states there is no minimum time before becoming eligible but the test is written for IPs with 2 years of experience in the field. Sara will research other states for the committee to benchmark against at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.