

# ATTACHMENT A

## Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council May 14, 2004 Minutes of Meeting

*MQF Advisory Council members present:* Jonathan Beal, Laureen Biczak, Richard Bruns, Rebecca Colwell, Frank Johnson, Nancy Kelleher Robert McArtor, Jim McGregor, David White and Janice Wnek. Dennis Shubert, executive Director the Maine Quality Forum, Tom Dunne, Executive Director Dirigo Health, and Maureen Booth of the Muskie School of Public Service were also in attendance.

The Minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2004 were corrected and approved.

### **Update on Dirigo Health**

Tom Dunne discussed the highlights of the monthly update that had been previously sent to members of the Advisory Council. He reiterated the effort required to produce the RFP for such a unique project. He pointed out that the response to the RFP was an unknown and Dirigo was anticipating most contingencies. Mr. Dunne discussed the plan for information sharing across the different Dirigo groups. He explained that Trish Riley will arrange for conference calls with the groups chairs as necessary. He pointed out that each group leader would have an opportunity to summarize progress to date and plans. He made the point that the calls would be for exchange of information, not discussion in depth of any particular issue. He expressed gratitude for the recently announced MeHAF grant that would speed up the State Health Plan and provide the resources for a strong marketing plan for the Dirigo insurance product.

### **Administrative Changes**

Dr. McArtor announced that there were two nominations for Vice-Chair. He mentioned that Dr. Rosen asked to be relieved from his duties as chair of the Performance Measurement Committee. Therefore, Dr. McArtor offered in nomination for Vice-Chair, Becky Colwell and Chair of the Performance Measurement Committee, Dr. Jan Wnek. There were no other nominations and the nominations were approved unanimously.

Dr. McArtor asked the Council to adopt Roberts's Rules of Order for Council procedures. The Council concurred giving the Chair the power of modifying those rules where necessary for local preference.

### **Performance Measurement**

Dr. McArtor reported on the combined group working towards a core set of hospital performance indicators. The groups consist of the MQF, the Maine Health Management Coalition (MHMC) and the Maine Hospital Association. The group has selected 25 indicators to date and the constituent groups have taken those choices back to their members for verification. Dr. McArtor asked the Performance Measurement Committee,

chaired by Dr. Wnek, to act on behalf of the MQFAC in approving those indicators. Copies of the proposed measures will also be sent to MQFAC members for their information.

### **Provider Group Nominations**

Becky Colwell presented the slate of nominations (Attachment C) for the Provider Group as proposed using predetermined criteria that include geographic balance and preference for actively practicing providers. The slate was adopted unanimously. Five slots had no nominees (Faculty RN, Physician Assistant, Indian Health Services, Podiatry and Community Pharmacist); Ms. Booth was asked to continue the solicitation process for nominations.

### **Technology Assessment**

Three issues were raised with direct relevance to the Technology Assessment Committee.

1. The technology assessment protocol (attachment D) was adopted by the Council after discussion. In compliance with the Protocol, the Technology Assessment Committee was requested to advise the MQFAC on whether and how an environmental scan should be conducted to support the MQF's role in the CON and State Health Planning process.
2. Dr. Shubert asked the MQFAC to process the request made by LD 616 through the technology assessment protocol in part because it seemed appropriate and in part to provide a test of the system.
3. Dr. Shubert asked the MQFAC for their support for advancing health information technology and interconnectivity in the State. Dr. Shubert provided a history of health information interconnectivity in the State of Maine as initiated by Dr. Karen Bell and supported by the Maine Health Access Foundation, the Maine Health Data Organization, The Maine Health Information Center and the Maine Quality Forum. He spoke of the involvement of the Muskie School and the Bureau of Health with their bioterrorism initiative. He explained the importance of health information technology to quality of care. He provided information on the quality and financial benefits of interconnectivity. He pointed out that national groups such as the Institute of Medicine and the National Quality Forum have made this activity their highest priority in the categories of infrastructure and process of care. Dr. Shubert explained the proposed next planning step to be conducted by the MHIC if adequate resources can be assembled. He explained that the effort would take approximately one third of the Executive Directors efforts and 5-10% of the MQF budget. The Advisory Council was unanimously supportive asking for routine progress reports and pledging support in the effort.

### **State Health Plan**

Attachment F was discussed. The relationship of the MQF, the MQFAC and the State Health Plan effort was discussed. Members of the MQFAC had many procedural questions and policy questions. Dr. Shubert stated that he would follow the formation of the State Health Plan and offer help wherever possible. The Council understood that the CON rules had not yet been rewritten.

The meeting adjourned at noon with MQF marketing and criteria for taking on new projects carried over to the next meeting.