

February 5, 2008

Council members present:

Deborah Nadzam, Chair (via phone)	Ellen Quinn (ASHRM)
Rita Munley Gallagher (ANA), Vice Chair	Paul Hoerner (DoD)
Diane Cousins (USP), Secretary (via phone)	Carol Holquist (FDA)
Karyn Downie (AAHSA)	Sal Peritore (GPhA)
Lee Rucker (AARP)	Matt Grissinger (ISMP)
Beth Feldpush (AHA)	Ray Bullman (NCPIE)
Joe Cranston (AMA)	Jeff Ramirez (VA)
Bona Benjamin (ASHP)	Mick Murray, Chair USP Safe Medication Use Expert Committee

Organizations not represented:

IHI	NASPA
The JC	NCSBN
NABP	NPSF

Alternates attending as representatives of their organizations:

James Owen (APhA)
Rosemary Cook (PhRMA)

Alternates attending with their delegates:

Mary Gross (FDA)
Shawn Becker (USP)

Observers:

Karl Gumpfer (ASHP)
Major Achilles Hamilophoris (Air Force)
Kelly Rhea (APhA Community Pharmacy Resident)
Kerri Temple (NASPA Student)
USP Attendees: Colleen Brennan, Manager, Safe Medication Use Expert Committee
Dorothy Demczar, Medication Safety Analyst, Consultant
Mike Heath, Consultant
Rick Schnatz, Manager, Pharmacy Compounding Expert Committee
Marilyn Storch, Coordinator, Patient Safety Projects
Sue Thomson, Patient Safety Analyst

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair welcomed Council members, alternates, and guests and called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m. The Chair joined the meeting via phone. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the summary of the October 2007 meeting. A discussion of tubing misconnections was added to the agenda. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the agenda for the February meeting as amended. The Vice Chair entertained a vote to submit an application on behalf of the Council for the Eisenberg Award. The deadline for application is April 14 and the presentation of the award is October, 2008. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to submit an application for this award.

Secretary's Report

- Web site additions

In the absence of the Secretary, Ms. Becker announced that the bar coding recommendations and the Drug Suffixes Conference summary have been posted to the appropriate places on the website.

- Web analytics

Ms. Becker reported that there have been more than one hundred hits on the new information that has been posted on the website within the past several months.

- Rules changes

It was decided by the Council that meeting summaries will continue to be posted only to the Members Page of the website. The former meeting wrap-up will be added to the website home page grid and will be available to the public. Dr. Cranston requested a disclaimer for the Actions/Decisions of the Council section to indicate that these actions/decisions were made by the Council as a whole and may not reflect the views and positions of individual members in their role as delegate from their organizations. The disclaimer codicil was unanimously approved. The wrap-up will indicate by use of a bold font which organizations were represented at the meeting. It was unanimously approved to rename the wrap-up "*Council Communiqué*."

Drug Suffixes Survey

The survey was approved by ballot prior to the meeting. Comments accompanying returned ballots were addressed by Mr. Grissinger. Minor editorial changes will be made and then the survey will be posted on Survey Monkey by the Joint Commission. Mr. Grissinger and Ms. Hanold will compose a promotional piece for organizations to employ to advertise the survey.

Action Item: Mr. Grissinger will e-mail Ms. Hanold all editorial changes to the survey prior to the posting on Survey Monkey.

Action Item: Mr. Grissinger and Ms. Hanold will develop a promotional piece for organizations to employ to advertise the survey.

Drug Suffixes Press Release

Members approved minor changes in the press release and it can now be disseminated to the individual organizations.

IOM Meeting – Advances in Health Literacy

Mr. Bullman provided a brief summary of the meeting, which focused on a new schema for prescription vials and sig.

Safe Medication Use Expert Committee

Dr. Murray announced the formation of a new Advisory Panel that will focus on creating content and format standards for prescription vial labeling for outpatient and practice-based areas. The goals are to make labels more comprehensible and the language more standardized. Dr. Murray asked for names of qualified individuals to sit on this panel. A slate will be forwarded to Dr.

Williams for his approval. Ms. Holquist volunteered to have her name put forward on the slate for this Advisory Panel.

In-house Reporting Systems

Dr. Ramirez reported that Version 2 of the VA's internal reporting system, VA ADERS, which is being released shortly, promotes a standardized web format and conforms to national coding specifics. Reports to this program can be forwarded directly to the FDA.

Medication Reconciliation

Member discussion revealed that many groups around the country are working in the challenging area of medication reconciliation for inpatients and outpatients. New databases are being developed that include a comprehensive list of medications for outpatients. Nurses and pharmacists have had the greatest buy-in to the idea; physicians have been less fervent in their involvement. AMA formed an expert panel to explore the issue and organizations such as ASHP, have put information on their web sites (e.g., http://www.ashp.org/s_ashp/doc1c.asp?CID=489&DID=7634). The topic is up for 2009 Patient Safety Goal comment. USP and the Joint Commission have presented classes on the topic.

Tubing Misconnections

There is a large concern that tubing misconnections are not part of the National Patient Safety Goals and that there is a lack of access to the data that is available. Ms. Becker announced that the Safe Medication Use Expert Committee has submitted two articles on the subject to the Joint Commission Journal. In response to a question as to whether or not this is a topic that the Council should pursue, the Vice Chair stated that it is not on the activity agenda at the present time but the issue could be reviewed after the release of the articles in May.

IV Summit

ASHP is convening a summit in June on preventing harm and death from the misuse of intravenous medications. USP, ISMP, and IHI are co-conveners. Ms. Benjamin offered to bring the resulting report and recommendations from the summit to the Council's fall meeting.

Bar Coding

Dr. Goldhammer (via phone for this discussion) informed the Council that his subgroup on implementation of bar coding met via a conference call. He then reported how technology is currently being used within the healthcare system and suggested that a survey be conducted to gain further insight into the reasons for slow uptake on bar coding. Karl Grumpper, Director of Pharmacy Informatics at ASHP, reported on ASHP's recent survey that revealed that 23% of respondents already have bar coding technology and 30% have no plans to implement such technology. ASHP asked to join the subgroup and Dr. Ramirez offered to get the VA bar coding group involved. It was suggested that the scope of the survey be widened to include facilities, as well as pharmacies, outside the hospital setting.

ACTION ITEM; The Secretary will setup a conference call for the bar coding subgroup to address what the survey instrument should look like.

Drug Samples Recommendations

Ms. Cousins joined the discussion of recommendations via phone. PhRMA took the position that these recommendations are part of FDA's rules procedure; and, therefore, any recommendations should be issued by FDA. Ms. Holquist responded that she would check whether or not sample packaging is part of FDA's CFR. Ms. Cook maintained that PhRMA's concerns focused only on manufacturer packaging and labeling recommendations, particularly Recommendation #6 and the usage of "urged". PhRMA requested the inclusion of a statement that PhRMA did not support these recommendations. Several members questioned whether PhRMA was comfortable with a public perception that it did not champion patient safety in this area. It was moved, seconded, and passed with one dissension to approve the recommendations as amended. Ensuing discussion was ruled out of order.

Action Item: The Secretary will post these recommendations to the Council's web site.

Several dates were suggested for the June meeting and June 24 was selected. The meeting times are 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Activities

- Dr. Murray presented the work of the SMU EC, including the educational activities. He stated that John Santell worked with the EC and developed a comprehensive model for training students in health professions. A fuller report on curriculum will be presented at the June meeting.
- Mr. Grissinger advocated the establishment of a committee to draft recommendations for the implementation of technology. He will chair this committee that will explore the advisability of moving forward.
- Dr. Nadzam announced that Joint Commission Resources has a new toolkit for Medication Reconciliation, a description of which is on the website. She also suggested that the Council consider the topic of pediatric safety.
- Ms. Cousins announced the launch of the 8th Annual MEDMARX Data Report and informed delegates that they would receive copies as soon as they are available. The focus of the report this year is look-alike/sound-alike drugs.

Action Item: A subcommittee was empanelled to explore the advisability of moving forward on recommendations related to the implementation of technology. Mr. Grissinger will serve as chair and Dr. Cranston, Dr. Goldhammer, Ms. McSpadden, and Dr. Ramirez will serve on the subcommittee.

Action Item: The Secretary will mail copies of USP's 8th Annual MEDMARX Data Report to Council members as soon as the copies are available,

The Chair thanked the Vice Chair for conducting the meeting in her physical absence.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.