



NCC MERP Meeting
June 11, 2019
2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
WebEx

Attendees:

Matthew Grissinger (ISMP), Chair; Ann Gaffey (ASHRM), Vice Chair; Shawn Becker (USP), Secretariat; John van den Anker (ACCP); James Burris (AGS); Isha Shah (ASHP); Lubna Merchant (FDA); Bob Feroli (MSOS); Rita Brueckner (Department of Veterans Affairs); Tara Modisett (NASPA); Carolyn Ha (PhRMA); Rita Munley Gallagher; Deborah Melnyk.

USP Observers: Abbey Ammerman; Donna Bohannon; Stacy Ndubuizu (APPE Student); Ujala Aslam (APPE Student); Julie Heo (APPE Student)

Opening, Procedural, and Administrative Matters

Mr. Matthew Grissinger called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. PM and welcomed everybody to the meeting. Ms. Ammerman called roll and acknowledged a quorum was lacking. The summary of the previous meeting was reviewed and not approved due to lack of quorum. Mr. Grissinger reviewed the agenda. Additional delegates joined the call so a quorum was established. The meeting summary was then approved

Secretariat's Report

Ms. Shawn Becker provided updates on the NCC MERP membership. She noted that two members had retired: Diane Cousins (AHRQ) and Maureen Cahill (NCSBN). She explained that she is reaching out to the organizations to provide a delegate and alternate if possible. She also noted that the advisory committee had suggested inviting Diane Cousins to participate as an individual member due to her institutional knowledge of the council.

Action Item: Ms. Becker will reach out to AHRQ and NCSBN to identify the new delegates.

Rules & Procedures

Ms. Becker explained that the Advisory Committee reviewed the Rules and Procedures documents and shared recommended revisions. The proposed revisions were presented to the council at the February meeting and distributed again in advance of this meeting.

A motion to adopt the revised Rules and Procedures was made and seconded. The Council voted unanimously to approve the revised Rules and Procedures.

Action Item: USP Staff will update the website with the updated Rules and Procedures.

Statement Prioritization and Archival Process

Mr. Grissinger noted that the advisory committee had discussed a process for prioritizing the review of statements and recommendations. The goal is not to rewrite every document, rather, to determine whether any edits are needed or if the statement/recommendation is still needed. The Statements/Recommendations will be prioritized by last date of review. The aim would be to review two per meeting. Council members will be assigned ownership of a statement and shepherd the review process. Any statements/recommendations that are deemed no longer relevant or outdated will be archived.

It was suggested that the first two statements for review should be:

- Recommendations for Manufacturers to Prevent Medication Errors Associated with the Label, Labeling and Packaging of Pharmaceutical (Drug) Products and Related Devices
- Recommendations for Regulators and Standards Setters to Prevent Medication Errors Associated with the Label, Labeling, and Packaging of Pharmaceutical (Drug) Products and Related Devices

Action Item: Council Members will volunteer to take the lead on the review process for the two identified recommendations to present to the advisory committee and the full council. If no volunteers are forthcoming, the Secretariat will reach out by listserv to garner volunteers.

NCC MERP Recommendations and Statements in Process

- **Inappropriate Polypharmacy:**
It was noted that Dr. Feroli was tasked with revising the polypharmacy recommendation draft to focus on inappropriate polypharmacy. Mr. Grissinger reviewed suggested recommendations and will forward any suggestions back to Dr. Feroli for any suggestions to the draft before presenting to the Council.
- **Medication Management/Patient Education:**
It was noted that numerous practitioners and systems struggle to have a process in place for patient education especially for opioids and anticoagulants. It was noted that recommendations could focus on the need for determining the effectiveness of the initial education, but also any needed follow-up. The recommendation should not be overly prescriptive, but possibly lay out best practices. It was noted that ISMP fellows have worked on an initial draft. Mr. Grissinger will send this proposed draft to Ms. Melnyk and Dr. Feroli for review prior to any Council review.
- **Measurement for Patient Safety:**
It was noted that IHI and WHO are working in the area of measurement for patient safety which may assist the Council on a possible path forward on any proposed recommendations. There was also a recent AJHP article on measurement. The goal for this recommendation is not to propose specific measure but to promote effective measurement.
- **Leadership in Medication/Patient Safety:**
Council members agreed that this is a very important topic noting the need for leadership to value and emphasize the role of medication and patient safety. It was suggested that too



often “patient experience” is given, priority for resources and leadership attention, along with VBP and quality initiatives. There is an opportunity to highlight the value of Medication Safety Officers with leadership, and demonstrate ROI which may include improved patient experience/satisfaction scores around Medication Education while in the hospital. This statement is in development and will be shared with council members for review.

Mr. Grissinger asked that Council members to think about other areas where statements/recommendations may be of value to practitioners and patients. He asked that Council members also consider whether there is enough balance between recommendations for outpatient and acute care settings and other areas of concern for patient safety and avoidance of medication errors.

New Business

Ms. Becker noted that there was a new request for use of the NCC MERP Category Index, but the requester wanted permission to adapt the Index to its institution’s needs. Council members agreed with the Secretary that our position in the past was not to allow alterations or adaptations of NCC MERP documents as noted on our copyright permissions. The Council delegates agreed that the extent of alterations would need to be addressed by the Council before any consideration of granting permission would be entertained.

Closing

Ms. Ammerman announced that the Council will meet next on September 27, 2019 at USP Headquarters. The chair thanked the Council members and adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.