

Palliative Care Committee Meeting Notes

Friday, December 4, 2105

Present: Christine Ritchie, Shireen McSpadden, Ramona Davies, Krista Blyth-Gaeta, Terry Hill, Rebecca Sudore, Anne Kinderman, Heather Harris, Jeff Newman, BJ Miller
DAAS: Melissa McGee

Presentation on methodology for utilization analysis – Heather and Anne K. –

The PowerPoint presentation is attached.

Discussion –

One recommendation from the group is that a needs assessment be completed to better understand palliative care needs.

One discovery was that many patients in this system present late in their disease process. This is often the first visit to address medical issues. About 40% of these individuals die within 3 months, and often the initial diagnosis is metastatic cancer.

There was a suggestion that chaplaincy be included in the PowerPoint presentation.

Heather will include chaplaincy into slides.

Christine questioned the group that as a committee, how do use this learning to continue work?

There was discussion around the need to assess the needs of larger SF community.

Heather and Anne explained that there is an RFP out to evaluate interventions for low-resource communities. The funds are through the RWJ foundation

Shireen suggests talking to SFHP about their patients and access to palliative care.

There are avenues to gather data; including Medicare, Covered California, SFHP, etc. It is important to get a wide range of data about different populations.

Terry Hill is working on access so that they can get data on all who died, including demographics.

Lance Lang is medical director of covered California. It is suggested that the exchange could share utilization data. There is question on where this is housed and who has access to the information.

Ramona suggests contacting Health and Human Services district 9 person; Herb Schultz, to determine interest in this effort.

BJ informed that Kathleen Kerr has developed a tool to analyze this data. Once you have the data, you can insert tool and the tool generates a gap analysis.

ACTION - Invite Kathleen Kerr to next meeting to explain.

ACTION - Jeff will explain mapping project at next meeting. This information is available by county and can lead to a general cost analysis.

Update on leadership draft document and event at SFSU – Eric –

Rebecca informed the group that Brian is looking at end of February for the event, but is flexible. The goal of the event is to educate public and also provide for a smaller group for media to provide education about palliative care and how it differs and complements hospice. The ad hoc group will coordinate with Barbara Koenig around her presentation on December 12. Barbara is an ethicist who has received funding from the California Healthcare Foundation to have discussion about this topic.

There was a suggestion that maybe the February meeting would be step 2 or continuation of this presentation. More will be known after the 12/12 meeting and will update this group at the next meeting.

The next step will be a call or focus group with the media to determine their needs.

Eric and Brian have media contacts and are contacting them now, and will provide update at next meeting.

Discussion on co-chairs – Shireen / Christine –

The decision was made by the group to have Shireen act as co-chair with Christine for the time being. The group would like to maintain the connection to DAAS. When a new Director is hired, the co-chair will be re-evaluated.

Meeting day and time –

A survey monkey will be sent to all to determine day and time for this meeting. Based on discussion, the options will be first Thursdays at 2:00pm, first Thursdays at 3:30pm, first Fridays at 2:00pm, or first Fridays at 3:30pm.

ACTION – Please complete the survey monkey when you receive it.

Next meeting date –
To be determined.