



Department of Health

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## Healthcare Quality Reporting Program

### **HOME HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

10-11am, June 1, 2015

Healthcentric Advisors, 235 Promenade Street, Suite 500

#### **1. Welcome and today's meeting objectives (10am)**

Emily welcomed the group and asked everyone to introduce themselves. She then reviewed the meeting objectives, including reviewing the home health inventory survey and hearing from the Immunization Program about the healthcare worker flu vaccination reporting requirements.

#### **2. Review of Home Health Inventory Survey (10:05am)**

The legislature passed H 7368, the Rhode Island Access to Medical Technology Innovation Act, also known as the Medical Tourism Bill, which under Section 23-93-5, requires the Department of Health to administer a state-wide healthcare utilization and capacity study. This data will be shared with the Governor, General Assembly and the Healthcare Planning and Accountability Advisory Council, and will be used in part to assist in creating a state-wide health plan and provide the Department of Health with recommendations for addressing identified gaps in the provision of healthcare and institutional health services, redundancy of these services, or lack thereof. The Department of Health is currently developing a survey for home health agencies. This survey is being combined with the annual home health capacity survey, administered by this program, in order to reduce the survey burden on agencies. Some of the information from this survey will be included in the web-based home health application currently under development. This web-based tool is being created as part of an AHRQ-funded research project and will be made publically available this fall.

The group reviewed the survey and discussed possible revisions. Suggestions for revisions included, but we not limited to:

- Including a request for agencies' Medicaid contract numbers
- Including space for a seventh satellite office location
- Exploring ways to report primary and secondary service locations
- Including a request for service area by zip code
- Clarifying the difference between the afterhours administrative line and the afterhours clinical line
- Including additional chronic disease programs and maternal health education as specialty services
- Changing 'Frailty' to 'Frailty/mobility' under health conditions

- Including Developmental disabilities under health conditions
- Including a request for the staff position/title of the infection control/prevention contact
- Including a question about whether the infection control training program is done internally or by an outside contractor
- Including additional categories in the principle insurer question
- Including additional categories in the patient age category question
- Changing the term 'patients' to 'patients/clients' throughout the survey
- Removing agency waiting list questions
- Adding Brain injury to the list of chronic conditions

The group also discussed whether questions about staffing levels and use of HIT would be applicable for this setting. The group decided that including these questions would be appropriate.

The survey will be updated with the discussed revisions. The Department of Health is hoping to get this survey out as soon as possible. Agencies will receive a notice from the Department of Health once the survey is open.

### **3. Review of Healthcare Worker Flu Vaccination Requirements (10:45am)**

Denise Cappelli, from the Department of Health's Immunization Program, reviewed the requirements for healthcare worker flu vaccination reporting. Home health agencies are required to report the vaccination status of their workers each year. The vaccination period is from 10/1-3/31. The survey to report vaccination is open from 4/1-5/15. The data collection period has been extended to ensure that all healthcare facilities and organizations have the opportunity to report this information. To submit data for your agency, visit:

<http://www.health.ri.gov/forms/assessment/influenza.php>.

### **4. Open forum & next steps (10:55am)**

Due to funding received from the CDC and the near completion of the AHRQ Home Health research project, we will be looking to this group for additional guidance and we would like to determine a more regular meeting schedule. In order to select a regular meeting day and time, we are asking that you fill out an availability survey. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and can be found here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HCQPhomehealth>

**Next Meeting: TBD**