



DATA COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 22, 2025, 2:00 – 3:00 PM. Virtual Zoom and Anchor Site DPH

Name of note taker: Caitlin Loyd

Facilitator: Alethea Miller, Liddy Garcia-Bunuel

Attendees: Vik Vishnubhakta, Leah Jones, Dede Hesse, Garrett Colmorgan, Dara Hall, Laura Line, Bridget Buckaloo, Kathryn Gifford

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome	Dr. Alethea Miller opened the meeting.
Approval of the Minutes from the July Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting.• Minutes from the July meeting were approved with a motion by Dede Hesse and a second by Vik Vishnubhakta.
Presentations on Access and Entry to Prenatal Care Data – PART II	<p>Eat Sleep Console and NOWS Data - Vik Vishnubhakta</p> <p>Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NOWS (Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome) has replaced the term "neonatal abstinence syndrome"• The Eat, Sleep, and Console model is a non-pharmacological approach to managing NOWS that Delaware has implemented <p>Key Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delaware reports approximately 300 NOWS infants annually, with a downward trend observed• No significant racial/ethnic disparities in NOWS rates• Strong associations between NOWS and adverse birth outcomes (preterm birth, low birth weight, extended hospital stays) <p>Eat, Sleep, Console Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fully implemented in 4 of 6 birthing hospitals• 49 infants tracked across 3 hospitals; 29 received the ESC model• No statistically significant association yet between ESC and reduced length of stay• The majority of infants did not require medication <p>State Maternal Health Innovation Grant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pairing peer support doulas with substance-exposed perinatal mothers• Goal to identify at-risk mothers prenatally and provide support



- Expected outcomes: reduced foster care placement, improved recovery capital, reduced severe maternal morbidity

Discussion Points:

- Breastfeeding rates low due to polysubstance use and cannabis use
- Implementation timeline varied by hospital, affecting early data
- Need for maternal education about the Eat, Sleep, Console model

Action Items:

- Slides to be made available to committee members with meeting notes
- Explore data matching between Impact Life peer support services and HealthySoft data
- Ensure Brandywine and other treatment providers have access to Eat, Sleep, Console educational materials
- Continue tracking implementation data as more hospitals provide information

Medicaid HEDIS Data - Richard Holaday

Background:

- Richard Holaday, Quality Director at DMMA, provided an overview of maternal health data collection
- Perinatal health has been a DMMA priority since 2017, included in Goal 1 of quality strategy
- Collaboration with managed care partners, the Division of Public Health, and advocacy groups

Data Collection Methods:

- HEDIS (Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set) measures
- CMS adult and core set measures (federal mandate as of 2024)
- Stratified data collection by race, ethnicity, sex, and geography since 2022
- Hybrid methodology combining claims data with medical records

Current Performance:

- Delaware performing above the national median for prenatal and postpartum care measures
- New hire will help with data analysis bandwidth
- Healthcare Claims Database coming online to compare Medicaid vs. commercial/Medicare

Quality Improvement Activities:

- Quarterly meetings with MCO partners on quality measures
- Quality Improvement Initiatives Task Force meetings
- Performance improvement projects targeting pregnant/postpartum people with opioid use disorder

Data Requests and Specifications: Committee requested specific analysis of HEDIS prenatal and postpartum care measures stratified by:

- Geography (zip code level if possible, currently rural vs. urban)
- Race and ethnicity
- Specific diagnosis codes (hypertensive disease of pregnancy, preeclampsia)
- Trimester of care initiation

Discussion of Access Issues:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Delaware is identified as an "OBGYN desert" with access challengesNeed to identify geographic pockets with poor access to timely prenatal careInterest in chronic conditions data (hypertension, diabetes, obesity)Telehealth identified as a potential solution <p>Relevant Links/Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Delaware Quality Strategy 2023Medicaid/CHIP Health Care Quality Measures Data DashboardAIM Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy ICD10 Codes List <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Richard to provide technical specifications for HEDIS prenatal and postpartum care measuresRichard to analyze 2024 stratified data by race, ethnicity, and geographyExplore zip code-level geographic stratification through their data warehouse vendorInvestigate the feasibility of stratification by specific diagnosis codesRichard to return with specific data analysis at next Data Committee meeting (i.e., Part III)
Data Dashboard Ideas and Examples	<p>This agenda item was deferred due to time constraints. Dr. Miller noted that Jenny Lancaster was scheduled to present on the Marshall Project dashboard but was unable to attend. This presentation will be rescheduled for the next meeting.</p> <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Schedule Jenny Lancaster for the next meeting to present the Marshall Project dashboard
Next Steps and Closing Remarks, Co-chairs	<p>Upcoming Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Future meetings will be restructured: first hour led by Drs. Miller and Ashkenase, and second half hour led by Vik and Meena for task force-specific activities <p>Recent Developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">DMMA is implementing a lactation consulting benefit with a telehealth componentCMS approval obtained for telehealth servicesDashboard development ongoing with focus on meaningful metrics <p>Collaboration Emphasis: Dr. Miller emphasized the importance of understanding the "why" behind data collection and praised Delaware's collaborative approach to breaking down silos between agencies.</p>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PMNext Meeting: Monday, October 20, 2025, 1:30-3:00 PM