

## ATTACHMENT A

### Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council

June 11, 2004  
Minutes of Meeting

*MQF Advisory Council members present:* Jonathan Beal, Richard Bruns, Rebecca Colwell, Frank Johnson, Jim McGregor, Becky Martins, Lisa Miller, Chip Morrison, Dan Roet, Steve Shannon, David White, and Janice Wnek. Dennis Shubert, Maine Quality Forum, Tom Dunne, Dirigo Health Agency and Maureen Booth, Muskie School of Public Service were also in attendance.

Rebecca Colwell, Vice-Chair, led the meeting.

#### **Minutes**

Minutes from the meeting of May 14, 2004 were accepted as distributed.

#### **Dirigo Health Update**

Adam Thompson from the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance described the ongoing activities of Dirigo Health's committees and agencies. Tom Dunne updated the group on the details of the anticipated plan proposal process. Mr. Dunne congratulated the Advisory Council on its engagement and success to date.

#### **State Health Plan**

Ellen Schneiter with the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance reported that a Public Hearing on the draft State Health Plan took place on June 3. The draft Plan provides guidance on major issues faced by Maine's health care system. Draft amendments currently are being developed to certificate of need rules that reflect the criteria laid out in the draft Plan. To facilitate community involvement in what will become a more fully developed Biennial State Health Plan, a *Tough Choices* campaign is being undertaken to raise awareness and solicit input from Maine citizens. Ms. Schneiter acknowledged the need to coordinate the input of the MQF Advisory Council into the State Health Plan. She anticipated that the MQF would provide forward looking assessment of medical technology that would affect the State Health Plan as well as address medical technology issues identified by the MQF during the CON process.

#### **Technology Assessment Committee**

Jonathan Beal reviewed the minutes of his committee's meeting of June 10 that were then accepted by the Council. The Council agreed with the methodology being pursued by the committee to respond to the Legislature's request for a more thorough review of the issues raised by LD 616. The study will include a review of the literature and an assessment of approaches used nationally to address concerns raised by LD 616. It was agreed that the Performance Measurement Committee would meet to advise the

Technology Assessment Committee on potential indicators of nurse sensitive conditions that could be incorporated in their work.

### **Performance Indicator Committee**

Jan Wnek reviewed the minutes of the committee meeting of June 10 in detail. The Council accepted the minutes and endorsed the committee's approval of 23 hospital and medical community indicators that they are part of a joint effort with the Maine Hospital Association, the Maine Health Management Coalition and the Maine Quality Forum led by Bob McArtor. Dr. Wnek stressed that the approval of indicators will be a dynamic process and that future consideration will be given to those relating to patient safety and chronic care.

### **Health Information Technology**

Dr. Shubert described the present state of the effort to promote electronic technology. He informed the MQFAC that the Dirigo Board had approved funds to support a 9-month planning process on health information interconnectivity. Mr. Dunne and Dr. Shubert will work with the Maine Health Information Center, which is leading the planning process.

### **Provider Group**

Ms. Colwell updated the MQFAC on the status of nominations to the Provider Group. Several categories of providers remain outstanding. The process will continue with the actual selection process being delayed until additional nominations are received.

### **Task List**

Dr. Shubert distributed an updated task list and discussed the list with the Council

### **Confidential Personal Information**

The MQFAC reviewed a policy on personal information provided by Council members. This information is protected to the extent allowed by state law. During the nomination process, the CVs of all candidates are public. However, the same personal information will not be further distributed by the Governor's office or Dirigo Health Agency.

### **Marketing**

The MQFAC approved the tag line, mission and vision statements for the MQF and Council as distributed.

### **Public Input**

The MQDAC voted to set aside specific time on each agenda for Council members to introduce new business that could include specific issues from the public if they felt it appropriate to do so. Members were encouraged to provide a written summary of the information.

### **Policy on Distributing Draft Minutes**

Council members pledged to approve draft minutes rapidly by email so that only approved minutes need be distributed, satisfying the need for more rapid communication.

### **Other Business**

Jim McGregor addressed the Council about his personal concerns and conflicts. He expressed the likelihood that he would have to speak out publically against the savings offset payment system that would be the future funding of the Dirigo Health Agency and therefore also the MQF and its associated bodies. He also expressed the concern that his constituency might have interest conflicts with goals of the reform movement. The consensus of the Council was that they respected his concerns and would understand his need to voice those concerns. They pointed out that his input was valued and asked him to continue on the Council. The Council recognized that conflict of interest was likely to be common and should be openly discussed when members had concerns.

### **Public Comment**

There were no comments from public.