

Minutes

Texas Diabetes Council

April 28, 2005

The April 28, 2005 quarterly meeting of the Texas Diabetes Council was called to order at 1:25 p.m., at the Texas Department of State Health Services, Room M739, by Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Chair.

Texas Diabetes Council Members in Attendance:

Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM – Chair
Gene Bell, RN, CFNP, CDE - Secretary
Judith L. Haley – Vice Chair
Belinda Bazan-Lara, MA, RD/LD
Lenore F. Katz
Avery Rhodes
Margaret Pacillas, RN

State Agency Representatives:

Linda G. Robinson (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services)
Grace Elinsway, MEd, (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services)
Geri Willems (Department of Aging and Disability Services)
Janna Zumbrun on behalf of Philip Huang, MD, MPH (Dept of State Health Services)

Mrs. Bell, Secretary, called the roll and announced that a quorum was present. Rick Hayley had submitted a request for an excused absence due to business requirements that prevented his travel. Dr. Victor Gonzalez requested an excused absence due to illness. Randy Baker was not present.

ON A MOTION BY LENORE KATZ AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY TO EXCUSE ABSENCES OF MR. HAYLEY AND DR. GONZALEZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Presentations:

Remaking American Medicine. Karen Leach, Texas Medical Foundation, summarized an upcoming Public Broadcasting Services series on innovations to improve care of acute and chronic illnesses such as diabetes and asthma. She showed film clips from the series. She requested TDC support to promote viewership and recommended speakers knowledgeable about chronic disease care for panel discussions at local PBS stations.

ON A MOTION BY JUDY HALEY, SECONDED BY MARGARET PACILLAS TO PUBLICIZE THE SERIES VIA TEXAS DIABETES NEWSLETTER. MOTION PASSED.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan

Rita Zaslow (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America) introduced Paul Zobisch who outlined Medicare Part B diabetes benefits (outpatient services, monitors, shoes) and new Prescription Drug Plan (part D) effective January 1, 2006 and enrollment. Current transitional Drug Assistance cards are good until January 1, 2006. There is no enrollment fee and it is optional for Medicare enrollees. He distributed Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services materials. Dr. Harkless thanked them for the information.

Minutes of January 2005 meeting:

ON A MOTION BY AVERY RHODES, AND SECONDED BY BELINDA BAZAN-LARA, THAT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27, 2005 QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE TEXAS DIABETES COUNCIL BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. MOTION PASSED.

Presentation

By telephone, Steve Ponder, MD, CDE presented concerns about insulin pump prescriptions by family physicians or pediatricians (non-endocrinology specialty) with limited preparation and the absence of standards for pump training for patients. He outlined the rationale for his resolution to the Texas Pediatric Society and forwarded to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). It would advise the AAP to undertake the development and implementation of guidelines for proper patient selection, pre-pump initiation education for the patient and/or family, and follow up assessment and re-training to improve treatment outcomes for any child using the insulin pump. He requested Council's endorsement of the resolution.

ON MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, SECONDED BY AVERY RHODES THAT THE COUNCIL ENDORSE THE NEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAID GUIDELINES. MOTION PASSED.

Health Care Professionals (HCPC) Advisory Committee Reports:

Medical Professionals Advisory Committee:

Jeffrey Jackson, MD, reported recommended the advisory committee's revisions to insulin algorithms, including, revised language related to Insulin in Type 2 Diabetes Algorithm, i.e., revise the top two boxes and A1c cut point of less than 8.5% and greater than or equal to 8.5% respectively based on the Treat to Target and Initiate studies. He also submitted updated references, recommendation to insert "pen" along with vial for long-acting insulin in the algorithms for type 1 (multi-dose insulin) and with respect to glargine in the algorithm on initiation of insulin in type 2 diabetes, and a worksheet for converting to physiologic basal:bolus insulin therapy in type 2 diabetes mellitus with detail on carbohydrate/correction dosing.

ON A MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, SECONDED BY BELINDA BAZAN-LARA TO ACCEPT RECOMMENDED REVISIONS OF THE ALGORITHM AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED

Dr. Jackson presented the new Weight Management Algorithm for Overweight Children and Adolescents. A body mass index chart will be added upon consent of the author (Rosner) and CDC BMI percentiles rankings will be used. This algorithm will indicate that the targets are judgment-based since evidence is lacking to date.

ON A MOTION BY JUDY HALEY, SECONDED BY AVERY RHODES TO ADOPT THE NEW ALGORITHM FOR OVERWEIGHT YOUTH. MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Ozias commended the partnership generated by Dr. Menchaca and the pediatric workgroup with the Texas Pediatric Society (TPS) which will include this algorithm in its new childhood obesity tool kit for pediatricians.

Recommended revisions to update the Medical Nutrition Therapy Algorithm (in a regular review process) with respect to fiber and sodium intake and reference to omega-3 fatty acids for hypertriglycerides were presented.

ON A MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY TO ADOPT THE REVISED MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY ALGORITHM. MOTION PASSED.

Committee works in progress are: 1) a one-day community education program for patients and half-day for professionals as a Texas Diabetes Council educational program; and a new algorithm on diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). Council was informed that Dr. Spellman's educational DVD (Changing Course) earned third place in an international competition and issued congratulations.

The Council chair recognized the multiple and ongoing contributions of the Medical Professionals advisory committee and committee chairs at the Healthcare Professionals Advisory Committee meeting this morning with individual certificates and letters of appreciation.

Chair's Report

Dr. Harkless summarized the noon meeting with Council members, Drs. Morey Haymond (phone), Craig Hanis (phone) and Eduardo Sanchez, Commissioner of State Health Services, on the pediatric diabetes registry bill filed by Representative Laubenberg. Dr. Sanchez proposed amendments. He did not think that adding a question to the current BRFSS adult surveys would provide quality prevalence information as American Diabetes Association suggested. Judy Haley indicated that the fiscal note would be a barrier to passage. Discussion followed including Lenore Katz's recommendations for protecting patient privacy.

ON MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, SECONDED BY BELINDA BAZAN-LARA THAT THE COUNCIL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE BILL WITH AMENDMENTS TO SAFEGUARD PRIVACY, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD RESTRICTIONS, STIFF PENALTIES FOR RELEASE OF IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION, AND NO USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY OR DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBERS. MOTION PASSED.

Dr. Harkless reported that a proposed Appropriations bill (HB1) rider (90) which would require the DSHS to use a funding formula for assigning funds to chronic disease programs is scheduled for hearing about April 30.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Ozias recognized the completed State Plan 2006-07 which had been distributed to all state legislators. She confirmed the Council's plan to hold its Fall meeting October 19-20 at Texas Diabetes Institute (San Antonio).

Affiliated Group: Diabetes Coalition of Texas (DCoT) and Legislative Update

Lenore Katz, Chair reported on proposed changes to disband the coalition of organizations and return to the structure of a TDC advisory committee named the Advocacy and Outreach Advisory Committee.

ON A MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, AND SECONDED BY BELINDA BAZAN-LARA TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDED CHANGE. Discussion included rationale and feedback from those who attended past coalition meetings. MOTION PASSED.

Based on observations during the current Legislative session, Lenore Katz recommended that the Council sponsor an educational event for legislators and staff at the beginning of the next session to provide information to create awareness of the Council's role (as many legislative staff are new) and to explain needs related to type 1 as well as type 2 diabetes.

The El Paso Diabetes Association (EPDA) is hosting a conference October 1 focused on Women's Health and Diabetes.

Federally, pending legislation could deregulate health insurance plans and remove support for the mandated diabetes equipment, supplies and education that the state Legislature affirmed in the 78th session.

ON MOTION BY JUDY HALEY, SECONDED BY MARGARET PACILLAS, THAT THE COUNCIL CORRESPOND WITH THE TEXAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE MANDATE FOR DIABETES COVERAGE. THE CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD INCLUDE THE RATIONALE FOR THE COUNCIL'S POSITION. MOTION PASSED.

Member Reports

Lenore Katz reported on Rick Hayley's call that there is no word from American Diabetes Association on the release date for the law enforcement training video.

Donna Jones was thanked for the legislative updates she sent regularly during the session to keep Council members informed.

Program Reports:

As written.

Donna Jones outlined a new project to assess physician and their staff awareness of TDC standards of care, algorithms, and educational materials through physician office interactions. This project is targeted for completion by March 30.

Agency Reports:

Texas Department of State Health Services: no report

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: no report

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services: Geri Willems is the new representative. She updated all on the Aging Texas Well Advisory Committee and Action Plan. In April 2005, the Governor issued an executive order formalizing the Aging Texas Well Initiative and asking the department to continue efforts to identify and discuss aging policy issues, guide state government readiness, and promote increased community preparedness for an aging Texas population. Under the executive order, DADS is directed to form an advisory committee to advise the department and to make recommendations to state leadership on implementation of the Aging Texas Well Initiative.

Texas Education Agency: no report

Announcements:

Council members requested that the TDC business cards include their names to help with follow up as had been done in the past.

Dr. Harkless was interviewed for the national publication, Diabetes Care Quality Improvement: A Resource Guide for State Action, which has a companion workbook.

Public Comment: none.

Adjournment

ON A MOTION BY AVERY RHODES, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY, THE COUNCIL VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 5:00 pm.