

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

**Diabetes Advisory Council (DAC)
Quarterly Meeting Summary Notes
Date: July 25th, 2023**

Participants (note if participants had called in)

DAC Members – (Quorum is Met)

- Joseph Chebli
- Melvin Price
- Betty Springer
- Jennifer Roberts
- Nancy Murphy
- Bridget Jennings

Applicants

- Gregg Laskoski
- Lynn Howard
- Jennifer Wascovich
- Jessica Pierce
- Justyna Stachnik
- Lamont Allen
- Lucille Beseler
- Mica Lill

Guests

- Carolina Gutierrez
- Edward Clark
- Stella Nemuseso
- Taylor Guy
- Grace Boran

DAC Members Absent

Excused

- Donald Grossman
- Larry Fox

Unexcused*

* Any DAC members who tried unsuccessfully to participate by phone should email Jennifer Roberts (Jennifer.Roberts2@flhealth.gov) so their absence can be marked as excused.

Welcome:

Thank you all for joining our July 25th meeting. Our speaker, Dr. Clark will be presenting at our next meeting on October 17th.

Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention Updates:

Membership Applications

- Year-to-date there are a total of 12 applicants awaiting review from the State Surgeon General and Governor. For the current applicants, if there are any questions about where your application is at, please email Jennifer Roberts or Taylor Guy to inquire more.

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- There has been an error with the online application form, due to this we are accepting paper applications. Jenny will send out the list of vacant positions.
 - o **Action Item:** If you know anyone who would be a good candidate for the vacant positions please provide their contact information to Dr. Chebli, Jennifer Roberts, and Taylor Guy or provide them with the member application.

Bylaw/ Statute:

1. Statute change must be completed by the legislative process. Dr. Chebli has scheduled a meeting with legislative senators to seek sponsorship for the changes.
2. Proposed Revisions
 - Discussed reducing appointed individuals from 26 to 16.
 - Reducing interested citizens to three, two of whom are affected by diabetes.
 - Decreasing the total number of education and focus areas from 18 to 10.
 - Changing the " American Association of Diabetes Educators" to the " Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists".
 - Considering the inclusion of the "Florida Diabetes Alliance" as a new organization.
 - Changing the Council's election of chair and vice-chair from annually to every two years.
3. Bylaws update can occur once the statute change is completed. Statute change is essential before adjusting the bylaws to ensure flexibility in different work group areas. Unlike the bylaws, the statute requires approval from the legislature.

Question: Is there a way that we (the DAC) can kind of take control of the process and appoint people independent of needing to go to such a high level to get people on the Council?

Answer: According to Florida Statute 385.203, the members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor with advice from the State Surgeon General. Members shall serve four-year terms or until their successors are appointed or qualified. In the past, the DAC Chair would send appointment recommendations to the State Surgeon General and the Governor for review instead of going through the Department of Health. The DAC is an independent board from the Department of Health. Jenny will provide past records to Dr. Chebli on how members were appointed and the current applicants that are routing through the Department of Health.

Draft Agenda for Dr. Chebli's meeting with the State Surgeon General

- The DAC Chair must meet with the State Surgeon General before June 30th of each year.
- The meeting will be scheduled soon from Dr. Ladapo's office.
 - o **Action Item:** Email Dr. Chebli and Jennifer Roberts with any recommendations or topic areas you would like included in the meeting. Please include 2-3 bullet points describing your topic **as soon as possible so it can be included.**

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DAC Legislative Report:

- Must be submitted to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and Senate President of the Senate on or before January 10, 2025.
- The current report is very lengthy with many paragraphs. It is recommended that the pages are reduced and more infographics and maps are added with information instead of paragraphs. Using more bullet points and links would help reduce the report. Updating the website to include the DAC history and then linking the report to the website instead of writing it out would reduce the pages as well.
- **Action Item:** Review Stroke Registry and Cancer Reports to begin picking macro topics the DAC would like to include. Identify what data the DAC would like to include in the report.
 - o Once the macro topics are identified the DAC will break up into groups to work on the report. Please include recommendations in each section instead of at the end. **Provide information by September 15, 2023**, so the DAC has information to request at the next DAC meeting.
- The Division of State Group Insurance, Agency for Health Care Administration, and Department of Health Epidemiology and Evaluation team will be invited to the next DAC meeting on

Insulin Distribution Program:

- Utilization has been low for the past State Fiscal Year. A total of 822 individuals have received prescriptions and \$68,791 has been spent from the IDP from July 2022 – June 2023 out of the \$360,000 allocated by the legislature.
- Dr. Fox completed the Formulary request forms for the Formulary Review Committee, and they were submitted. Dr. Joy Jackson from the Formulary Review Committee had the following questions:
 - o Does the DAC have a transition plan including communication with prescribers and clients about the formulary changes?
 - DAC plans to draft a letter informing the prescribing physicians, pharmacists, and other relevant parties about the upcoming changes. This communication will prove beneficial in ensuring a smooth transition. County Health Departments will all be notified. The Diabetes Prevention and Management Program is already drafting a flyer to be sent out to all CHDs regarding the formulary change and providing information about the IDP.
 - o Is the DAC okay with overlapping the insulins by not removing the old medications for a period of time to allow for new prescriptions to be written and sent? Possibly a period between 3-6 months or longer?

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- DAC would like to overlap the availability of both old and new insulins before considering the removal of the old medications. Also educating prescribers about the updated insulins and other available supplies such as glucagon. We will promptly inform the prescribing doctors about the formulary updates, enabling them to make informed decisions for their patients.
- Does the DAC have a plan for if/when the funding runs out? With the formulary changing to newer medications, the cost and utilization could be higher, especially with informing providers that the formulary has been updated. What happens if there is not enough budget to cover the individual's receiving medications through the IDP?
 - The DAC is prepared to speak with the legislature about increasing funding if the utilization increases. With the low utilization rate the DAC cannot request additional funding until the funding is exhausted.
- Once Dr. Jackson receives the answers to the above questions, she will arrange a special meeting or conduct an online vote with the Formulary Review Committee to finalize the review of the IDP Formulary.
- **Action Item:** Begin drafting a letter to be sent to providers about the formulary change.

Public Comment: None

Future Scheduled Meetings:

October 17, 2023, from 2-4: Diabetes Advisory Council Meeting

Wrap-up and adjourn

This conference call meeting was recorded. By staying on the conference call line, all participants agreed to be recorded.