

September 4, 2013

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Conference call (888) 670-3525

Conference code 2922384719



Joint Committee on Performance Standards, Rating System, and Rating Standards for Cancer Centers of Excellence, s. 318.925 Florida Statutes  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance**

Joint Committee

- Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D., (University of Miami) Miami (BRAC Chair)
- Thomas George, MD, FACP (University of Florida) Gainesville (C-CRAB Chair)
- Zenesha Barkley, DNP, MSN, RN, CNE (Bethune-Cookman) (C-CRAB)
- Joanne Bujnoski, DO, FACRO (Florida Osteopathic Association) Pensacola (C-CRAB)
- Barbara Centeno, MD. (Moffitt Cancer Center) Tampa (BRAC)
- Representative Marti Coley Marianna (C-CRAB)
- Brian Rivers, Ph.D., MPH (Moffitt Cancer Center) Tampa (C-CRAB)
- Gerald Robbins, MD (American Cancer Society) New Port Richey (C-CRAB)

DOH Staff

- Robert Hood, Ph.D., Manager, Public Health Research Unit
- Sarah Hofmeister, Research Program Analyst, Public Health Research Unit

The meeting was called to order at 3:10p.m.

A quorum was present. The quorum is defined as a majority of the 13 members of the Joint Committee, including both chairs.

**I. Schedule**

The chairs proposed the following agenda items for future meetings.

Meeting:	Items to be discussed:
9/4	Area 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
9/19	Area 1.6, 1.9
9/25	Area 1.7 and finalize/approve Section I
10/8	Section II
10/22	Section III
10/29	Finalize/Approve Sections II & III Review/Approve policies relating

## II. Standard 1.3

**The organization actively participates in at least one regional cancer control collaborative that is operating pursuant to the Florida Comprehensive Cancer Control Program's cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. (Required by statute)**

- Members discussed the need to define what types of collaboration with a cancer collaborative would meet the performance standard. Staff to provide information about the collaboratives and examples.
- Members discussed the need to define what level of participation would meet the standard.

## III. Standard 1.4

**The organization demonstrates excellence in and dissemination of scientifically rigorous cancer research. (Required by statute)**

- Members proposed a working definition of excellence in scientific research as peer-reviewed, extramurally-funded, investigator-initiated, and comprehensive in scope to include all of the following seven types:
  - Basic
  - Clinical
  - Translational
  - Population science
  - Health services research (health systems research)
  - Cancer control and prevention research.
- Members discussed whether excellence required an organization to have all seven types of research, or whether particularly notable strength in one or more areas might counterbalance not having one or two areas. For example, whether having several Nobel-prize winning discoveries in one area might balance not having a strong program in another area.
- Members discussed “dissemination” but did not arrive at a consensus. Members considered whether publication in peer reviewed journals was necessary and sufficient; the difficulties of publishing negative results; the impact and quality of journals; the volume or number of publications; and whether publication was sufficient for dissemination, or whether dissemination also required changing clinical practice.
- Members did not create a working definition of “rigorous”.
- The chairs agreed to revisit this standard once the members could review in writing.

### **III. Standard 1.5**

#### **The organization integrates training and education of biomedical researchers and health care professionals. (Required by statute)**

- Members discussed how broadly to define “biomedical researchers” and “healthcare professionals” – for example, whether to include nurses, nutritionists and social workers as healthcare professionals. Members discussed whether training should focus on cancer-specific professions such as oncologists, surgical fellows, radiation oncologists, or should it be broader and cover medical students, and noted that, for example, there are only six institutions in Florida with oncology fellowship training programs. Members discussed whether to benchmark education using program accreditation.
- Members discussed how to define the education of researchers, and whether to benchmark researcher education using research grants such as K, T, and R25 federal agency awards or Florida biomedical grant program funding awards.
- Members considered how to measure how education improves the pipeline of researchers, and improves the diversity of the workforce in Florida.
- Members considered, but did not come to consensus about a proposed working definition: Organization should demonstrate the training of cancer professionals which includes physicians, midlevel providers and nurses through an accredited process of training and education. Organization integrates biomedical researcher training through peer reviewed programs to support the transition of new investigators to independent investigators, through grants such as K, T, R25 and similar awards.

### **V Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **VI Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.