

January 18, 2008
Quitcenter Meeting
Minutes

Present: UMDNJ-TDC/New Brunswick-Jonathan Foulds, Michelle Bover, Jose Cruz, Amy Schmelzer & Donna Richardson. NJ DHSS Ed Kazimir, SBBHN- Helene Long. Virtua Health-Cynthia Grant. UMDNJ/SPH-TSERP-Daniel Gunderson. Somerset Medical Center- Chris Kotsen. Monmouth County Correctional- Frances Williams. UMDNJ-Newark Clinic- Heather Jordan. Shore Memorial- Stephanie Bordonaro, Maria Spear & Marge Scanny (n=14)

I. Summary of minutes- Quitcenter Meeting Minutes are posted on Tobaccoprogram.org.

II. News from NJ DHSS

- a. NRT-Quitcenters should estimate annual NRT (patch) use per year and provide feedback on your policies around purchasing and distributing these products at your centers as there may be funding available for QC's. Email this information to Ed Kazimir.
 1. How are you using NRT?
 2. What is your current policy?
 3. What are you paying?
 4. Would this change if DHSS provide funds?

III. NJ Medicaid developments. (see attachment) Oct 17th NJ Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board meeting. next meeting Feb 27 Dr. Steinberg will attend

Detailed handout of Jonathan Foulds' statement which covered question and recommendations. Re: smoking Cessation Protocol for NJ Medicaid, Drug Utilization Review Board.

Committee was very supportive of covering FDA meds for Tobacco treatment which include 5 NRT products, Chantix & Bupropion. Jonathan recommended that the whole smoking Cessation protocol be made available on the DURB's website and the link be widely disseminated by every available method.

Other issues/questions raised:

1. CG- Does this cover the carved out options? (need to check)
2. At the time of purchase will there be information about the NJ quit services attached? (not currently planned)
3. Will this be linked to QC (referral)? (no)
4. Will this require prior authorization? (the aim is to not require this)
5. CK-Will this cover group? (Counseling of any type not yet covered by NJ Medicaid – that will be the next thing to shoot for).

IV. Patient Testimonials for CTCP's What's Your Excuse Campaign -Contact Laura Febbi laura.febbi@winingstrat.com, Account Supervisor, Winning Strategies Public Relations, 550 Broad Street, Suite 910, Newark, NJ 07102. Looking for patient testimonials from Quitcenters. Interested in having couples who quit together at your Quitcenters. Once you identified someone for a testimonial, please utilize your organization's patient release/disclosure to before releasing the patient's names to the media contact. (It's important that we deliver on the decision to be involved with this campaign).

EK-Don't lose an opportunity; ask if they can help you with local media opportunities (contacts) with advertising for your quitcenters.

**V. Chantix (side effect issues and effects on QC attendance)
Post Marketing surveillance**

The FDA requires the manufacturer to add extra warning of side effects to label. Because of recent publicized bizarre behavior due to use of Chantix. The manufacturer has sent letters to doctors warning them of the side effects. An extra insert is included in the box for patients.- stating patients should have regular support while using this med as it reduces their risk of

these side effects. This publicity could potentially have a negative impact on some quitcenters treatment as people are no longer asking for Chantix. Also a concern about liability if a patient has a bad reaction on Chantix.

DR-She addresses the patients concerns and move on to other options. Deal with their queries and don't push medication because there are other options.

JF- Shouldn't be overly concerned --we should provide accurate evidence-based information and sensible advice that doesn't reach beyond our professional training and qualifications.

Marge Scanny-Ignoring warning signals or bad advice (you're only liable if you did the bad procedure). So if patient raised a red flag and the clinician didn't respond to it then that is bad practice and there is a risk both to the patient and a liability risk for the provider. This applies regardless of whether the patient is taking Chantix or any other med.

Ck-Document everything clearly – e.g. that you collected information and responded to it.

EK. Your job is to help them quit smoking and their doctors job is to do the rest . You should document info and forward info to their doctors.

QC & Community Partners

It has been 1 year since the clean indoor act was passed and we are not seeing a marked increase in patient numbers.

Does Chantix affect QC attendance—because patients get scripts from their doctors and feel that's all the help they need?

Remember:

1. Serious adverse events should be reported to the FDA
2. Counselors should be prepared to explain side effects to pts and monitor them as this will reduce the risk of potential adverse events. Clients should not use this med without support from a doctor or clinician. Advise patients to use as directed by their physician.
3. Caution and advice in group with clients on different meds and stages of treatment not to increase any meds unless you have been instructed by your physician.

VI. Clinical use of the “night smoking” item on the assessment. Paper at www.tobaccoprogram.org under staff articles. Night smoking is a predictor difficulty quitting and marker for high dependence and relapse risk.

VII. PHS Clinical Practice Guideline-will be published in May

VIII. Recertification credit requirements - 18 hours of training-not much training available. TDP would like feedback on topics of interest.

IX. Other Business-

Diversity-Media campaign winning Strategy working the housing projects-to promote NJ quit services focusing on communities that we are not doing very good outreach in. Also trying to backing from the city and local vendors. Will discuss at future meetings (contact person for this project is Connie Green).

Cynthia Grant-Nasal Spray – A patient was told that this product has been taken off the market (discontinued). The wholesaler may have stop carrying the product.

Oprah Winfrey show-1-888-quitnow

J&J is going Tobacco free using their own program.

Insurance billing codes-99406 and 99407are replacing G codes

NEXT QUITCENTER MEETING IN NEW BRUNSWICK WILL BE 9.30-11.30am, FRIDAY Feb 15, 2007. Please send items for the agenda to Lisa Underwood: lisa.underwood@umdnj.edu From now on the minutes will be recorded and posted on www.tobaccoprogram.org