

March 28, 2008
QUITCENTER MEETING
MINUTES

Present: UMDNJ-TDC/New Brunswick-Jonathan Foulds, Michelle Bover, Amy Schmelzer & Donna Richardson. NJ DHSS Ed Kazimir. SBBHN- Helene Long. Virtua Health-Cynthia Grant. UMDNJ/SPH-TSERP-Dan Gundersen. Somerset Medical Center-Chris Kotsen. UMDNJ-Trenton - Louisa Herrer. Monmouth County Correctional- Emma Williams. UMDNJ-Newark Clinic- Heather Jordan. Atlantic Health- Joanne Gould. SMH- Maria Spear & Stephanie Bordonero. (n=15)

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

II. New from DHSS

1. Site inspections need to be done by mid May
2. Grant applications are due on April 1, 2008 (state budget will be the same) third year of the three year grant cycle.
3. Talktoyourpatients.org - Add from New York Times advertisement. Has anyone seen more patients due to this add? People might want to go to the web site and download the poster and post it in their centers.
 - a. CK-Indirectly the meet with the chief of orthopedic surgery wants us to help with getting patients to quit smoking a week or two before their scheduled surgery.
4. Media Campaign whatyouexcusenj.com ends July 2008; this site has a link for Quitcenters via njquit.net. Quitcenters should monitor their information at nj.quit.net on a monthly basis to ensure accuracy.
5. TSERP completed a stake holders group with staff from Federally Qualified Health Centers about reaching out and providing cessation treatment to the clients. One suggestion was to offer funding to three centers to help their patients quit smoking. Grants will be given to facilities in different geographic locations than quitcenters.

III. More on Chantix

1. Jonathan Foulds is on the national advisory committee for Chantix for Pfizer. One of issues on the agenda is adverse events. None of the Chantix studies had side effects to this extreme as people with complex medical histories were excluded. We don't know if Chantix is the cause of these adverse events. We must be professional in our practice and follow-up with patients. If you are worried about your patient on Chantix, then they should see their prescriber, be monitored closely and possibly taken off Chantix. The tricky part is how to proceed from there. Another med(s) seems reasonable as we would want them to quit and not suffer withdrawal

IV. Kessler - 6

1. JF would like information on research regarding this system to determine a cut off point for assessing very high risk patients. The k-6 is currently included on our assessment & follow-up form. Patients should know the questions are about how they have been feeling generally (not just in regards to their smoking). During follow-up, scores should be compared with the assessment score. If patient scores are high keep accurate notes regarding their mental health treatment. Jonathan will discuss the most practical use of the K-6 with Marc Steinberg.

V. Clinical Issues

DR- recruiting smokers from the intoxicated driver resource center at Middlesex County College. Donna recommends reaching out to these programs as the percentages of smokers are high 64% of women and 54% of men in Middlesex County. She attends twice a month speaks to the group for about 20 minutes and sets up information table.

For details and contacts Go to <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/das/idrc.htm> .

DR-FYI-Medicaid FDA approved cessation drugs take time to work through the system.

Medicaid pharmacist – Pinali Patel has been helpful with contacting pharmacies who are resistant with processing these prescriptions (She'll actually call the pharmacy). Pinali Patel, PharmD-State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Division of Med. Asst. and Health Services, Pharmacist Consultant
(Office) 609-588-3062, (Fax) 609-588-3889

JG-Atlantic Health- Looking into combining deep relaxation techniques with treatment for those with mental illness.

MS & SB - SMH- Established a relationship with a behavioral health day program meets with five patients and developed a face sheet that includes the patient's meds & doctors' information. This relationship stemmed from possible side effect issues with medication interactions with this group quitting smoking.

LH-UMDNJ/Trenton - Open house is April 15th, and this will be covered by New 12. Announced in 4 Spanish newspapers and meeting with other community organization.

EW - Monmouth County Corrections –finished her Thesis on Nicotine addictions at Monmouth County Corrections. She will have statistics & surveys that were developed at the next quitcenter meeting.

Trial on Chantix –JF NIH / Pfizer will provide details at future meetings
JF- Department of Corrections requested training

VI. Other Business-

DG- Smoking prevalence in NJ is 17%

TDP-CTTS 5-day Training June 6/16-6/20 and 1-day Advanced training May 20, 2008

NEXT QUITCENTER MEETING IN NEW BRUNSWICK WILL BE 9.30-11.30am, FRIDAY April 18, 2008.

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