

MARCH 16, 2007
QUITCENTER MEETING
MINUTES

Present: UMDNJ-TDC/New Brunswick-Jonathan Foulds, Roena Vega, Jose Cruz, Michael Steinberg & Donna Richardson. UMDNJ-TDC-Newark -Heather Jordan. NJ DHSS Gail Ernst, Ed Kazimir& Karen Farrell. SBBHN-Deborah Joshua, Connie Greene, Debra Tarnoff & Helene Long. Virtua Health-Cynthia Grant. UMDNJ/SPH-TSERP Dan Gunderson. Christ Hospital- J.LilianValbuena & Henry Iwuala. Shore Memorial-Stephen Katzen, Somerset Medical Center-Chris Kotsen. Mercer County Quitcenter- Marc Steinberg. (n=20)

I. NJ DHSS- news from CTCP

- a. Smoking prevalence is very high in socially and economically disadvantaged communities. Quitcenters should outreach and build relationships with their local Federally Funded health center. There are 21 community health centers in the state. To find your local center, go to:
<http://www.njpca.org/FQHC/directory.aspx>
- b. Reminder that all printed material must be viewed and approved by the state and include CTCP funding acknowledgement (ideally with logo). Please forward all future materials to Ed Kazimir or Karen Farrell for approval.
- c. Grant renewal application, go to: <http://nj.gov/health/index.shtml> (Grants & Forms) to review the renewal process. Karen Farrell & Ed Kazimir are available for assistance.
 1. Timeline is very important (due April 2nd, no extensions will be granted)
 2. Proposed budget is the same as last year (do not add cost of living increases to last year total)
 3. Grants are 1 year

II. Discussion of “Data Brief” report on Quitcenters

- d. Developing a series of briefs for the NJ quitcenters depending on the interest and research ideas of the quitcenters. The state will produce briefs on the overall analysis of aggregated data from the QC database on historical and new data.
 1. Ongoing process—volunteer for work group by email to Gail Ernst
- e. Sending data to the state at the end of each quarter
 1. Gail Ernst will send instructions on using yousendit.com
- f. Six month follow-up
 1. If a patient is smoking and returns for treatment after six months it’s considered a new episode- patient is giving a new database number. If a patient is not smoking and returns for treatment after six months this is ongoing treatment – no new database number is given.

(Additional example after meeting: except in case of patient returning specifically for help in coming off NRT after 6 months with a break in treatment – that would also be a new treatment episode).

III. One day advance trainings for CTTS credit hours. (Post cert – need 18 hrs to maintain cert).

- g. TDP is offering 3, 1-day 6 hour advanced trainings that will qualify for CTTS credit hours. May 3, 2007 will be the first training, time and topic to be announced.
- h. Discussion-regarding TDP 5-day training 42 hour credits being applied toward CADC. To be determined- will discuss at a later date.

IV. Proposed Legislation requiring reimbursement for Tobacco Dependence Treatment Clinical issues.

1. A1615-Requires health insurers to cover costs of tobacco use cessation services. Herb Conaway-primary sponsor and Robert Gordon co-sponsor. To review bill, go to: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>
2. Continue billing under 305.1 and Tobacco counseling to develop consistency for insurance reimbursement for tobacco treatment.
3. Ed will follow up with NJ Medicaid regarding coverage for Chantix.
4. Carbon Monoxide monitor not clearing between patients - read the manual; it may be helpful to use two machines during group and sometimes the blue button sticks. If problems continue contact the manufacturer.

V. Other business

- **Proyecto Vida: Latino Deje de Fumar**- free NRT is available for Latino clients. Contact Roena Vega for more information @ 732-235-6891. Go to: <http://proyectovidanofume.org/about.htm> to download posters.

- **National Provider Number**- This is mandatory for medical billing; deadline is May 1, 2007. You can apply online for a universal ID #. Every individual providing clinical services at Quitcenters should do this now (even students can get a number), by visiting website: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>

- NYC's quitline automatically transfers NJ numbers to NJquitline.

- Group discussed closed group vs. open group therapy formats.

Closed Group-6 week group everyone is at the same stage and celebrates their success together.

Open Group-A mix of clients who are farther along offer encouragement to those just beginning. Facilitator encourages clients to get support from other sources to validate their accomplishments. (Friend, co-worker, spouse or another relative).

- New issue of NIAAA journal "Alcohol Research and Health" out on Alcohol and Tobacco – free online at: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Publications/AlcoholResearch/>

- Quitcenter staff should consider joining ATTUD. Visit www.attud.org

- World No Tobacco Day (always May 31) - this years theme is smoke-free environments.

see link: <http://www.who.int/tobacco/communications/events/wntd/2007/en/index.html>

NEXT MEETING WILL BE @ THE GRANTEE MEETING ON APRIL 25TH

NEXT MEETING IN NEW BRUNSWICK WILL BE 9.30-11.30am, FRIDAY MAY 18TH

Please send items for the agenda to Lisa Underwood: lisa.underwood@umdnj.edu by Friday May 18th. From now on the minutes will be recorded and posted on www.tobaccoprogram.org