

**June 22, 2007**  
**QUITCENTER MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** UMDNJ-TDC/New Brunswick-Jonathan Foulds, Donna Richardson, Jyoti Dasika. UMDNJ-TDC-Newark -Heather Jordan. NJ DHSS Gail Ernst, Ed Kazimir. SBBHN- Connie Green, Anna Larotonda, Tracy Gross, Michele Buldo & Helene Long. Virtua Health-Cynthia Grant. UMDNJ/SPH-TSERP-Dan Gunderson. Shore Memorial-Stephen Katzen. Somerset Medical Center-Chris Kotsen. Mercer County Quitcenter-Donna Drummond. Monmouth County Correctional- Emma Williams. Christ Hospital-Karuri Munene, J. Lilian Valbuena. (n=18)

**I. NJ DHSS- news from CTCP**

- a. **Data Brief** (Hand out) –Please review and forward feedback, queries and comments to Dan Gunderson - gunderda@umdnj.edu UMDNJ/SPH-Tobacco Surveillance and Evaluation Research Program by June 29 if possible.
  1. Volunteer for work data-brief work-group by email to Gail Ernst
- b. **Quitcenter database** -Report any technical issues with the database to Gail Ernst.
  1. Final Data submission for fiscal year 06/07- All Quitcenters will send your database to Gail Ernst for an update. Gail will email you with instructions. Do not enter any data in the database during this process. Once you receive your database back you can begin entering again.
- c. **Quitnet chat rooms** (Ed Kazimir)
  1. NJquitnet Chat rooms high traffic 24/7. Get patients to sign up and utilize the chat rooms and speak about their experiences with the Quitcenters. Encouraging clients to post information about their experiences with Quitcenters may be a good way to spread the word.
  2. SBHC-Institute for Prevention purchased searching rights for some key words on Google and Yahoo for NJ related to quitting smoking.
- d. **NJ Hospital Cardiology Report** – can be found on the state website basic reporting information regarding outcomes of heart operations. Review your local hospital's grades. If you find that their scores are low on issues related to smoking reach out to them with some suggestion on how your Quitcenter can help. Also go to: [www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov) federal report on quality of outcomes for heart procedures. Review your local hospitals ranking and outcomes.
- e. There was discussion of a recent article on pediatricians prescribing of tobacco treatment meds to children under 18s.
  1. Treating minors— difficult group to treat. (TDP) has treated a small number of young people. Adolescents who have a willingness to quit are normally seen with a parent. Young adolescents are sometimes referred to their pediatrician. There is no information about the effect of NRT on their growth but at least one study showing a positive effect of the patch on cessation in youth.

**II. Progress on outreach/publicity/links with coalitions etc.**

**TDP**-Open House video is available @ [www.tobaccoprogram.org](http://www.tobaccoprogram.org)

**SBHC**- Ocean County Cancer coalition created a sub-committee and through that collaboration is utilizing the Quit toWin website to develop a professional presentation to use with hospitals and physician's.

**Fax to quit-** (the fax-to-quit form is available on [www.tobaccoprogram.org](http://www.tobaccoprogram.org) )

**SMC**-(CK) Somerset County Cancer Coalition gave positive feedback regarding fax to quit.

**SBHC**- revised their brochure to include the fax to quit form. This is very useful with health fairs. However it is still difficult to get patients into treatment. Received 25 referrals from Monmouth Medical Center and 3 people were reached for an appt.

**TDP-Newark (HJ)**

UMDNJ University Hospital-bed side interventions use fax to quit and/or the nurse schedules the appt for the patient. Today is the first stop smoking during pregnancy group.

**DHSS-(EK)**-Tobacco is one topic on which collaboration with other hospital or other health systems is possible e.g. a group of local hospitals can agree to implement a similar policy at the same time.

**III. Other Business-**

**SBHC**- targeting physician's offices and working with office managers to provide smoking cessation classes and follow up interventions. Starting with offices affiliated with SBHC system. Currently have two offices in Toms River interested in this service. This creates interactions with Physicians offices and acts as a secondary referral source. If a patient is already scheduled to see their PCP, SBHC can go in to the office to see the patient to complete follow up. You must have a signed release form to contact the patients PCP.

**SBHC** - northern hospitals (Livingston and Newark) – have two full-time bed side interventionist who distribute QC literature and refer patients to the QC. Received six referrals from this system.

**TDP-(DR)** has received referrals from RWJUH inpatients and same day medical service. The referrals are picked up from the Social Work Department. Out of 10 visits to the hospital she has completed two assessments.

**Christ Hospitals** – receives lots of referrals. However, once patients are contacted they are sometimes not ready for treatment.

**Somerset Medical Center (CK)**

Discounted NRT can help get patients to come to the QC. Suggest going through your hospital pharmacy director.

**TDP – (JF)**

Offers discounted NRT to patients-will try advertising free NRT and give patients a two week supply and additional boxes discounted for \$25.

**JF** –Stop smoking blog ( [http://www.healthline.com/blogs/smoking\\_cessation/](http://www.healthline.com/blogs/smoking_cessation/) ) new medicine ( rimonabant) denied approval by FDA. Need more data before approving for smoking cessation because of potential increased risk of mental health problems.

Philip Morris is testing a version of Snus-to market in the US and is also building a research center to develop a “safer cigarette.”

**Next Grantee Meeting in October 2007. (DTBD)**

**NEXT QUITCENTER MEETING IN NEW BRUNSWICK WILL BE 9.30-11.30am, FRIDAY July 20, 2007.**

**Please send items for the agenda to Lisa Underwood: [lisa.underwood@umdnj.edu](mailto:lisa.underwood@umdnj.edu)  
From now on the minutes will be recorded and posted on [www.tobaccoprogram.org](http://www.tobaccoprogram.org)**