

**Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 06, 2020
9:00 a.m.**

**Moreton Building Room M-100
1100 W. 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756**

Table 1: Texas Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Review Committee attendance Friday, March 06, 2020 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	IN ATTENDANCE
Ms. Nancy Sheppard- Alderman	No
Dr. Eumenia Castro	Yes
Dr. Meitra Doty	No
Dr. Linda Gaul	No
Dr. Pamala Gessling	Yes
Ms. Kimberly Griffin	Yes
Dr. Manda Hall	Yes
Dr. Lisa Hollier	Yes
Dr. James Maher	Yes
Dr. K. Kimberley Molina	Yes
Dr. Sherri Onyiego	No
Dr. Carla Ortique	Yes
Dr. Lavannya Pandit	No
Dr. Amy Raines-Milenkov	Yes
Dr. Christina Murphey	Yes
Dr. Patrick Ramsey	Yes
Ms. Nancy Jo Reedy	Yes

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Dr. Lisa Hollier, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and requested a moment of silence for all families forever impacted by the loss of a Mother. Dr. Hollier turned the floor over to Ms. Stephanie Gutierrez, HHSC, Advisory Committee Coordination Office. Ms. Gutierrez read logistical announcements, called roll, and determined a quorum.

Agenda Item 2: Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Hollier thanked all members of the review committee for their dedication and time. Dr. Hollier requested members introduce themselves.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of December 06, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Gutierrez noted members have a copy of the December 06, 2019 meeting minutes in their packet. Ms. Gutierrez requested a motion.

MOTION:

Dr. Carla Ortique made the motion to approve the December 06, 2019 meeting minutes. Dr. Patrick Ramsey seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken for all members in the room. The motion carried with no objections nor abstentions.

Agenda Item 4: Subcommittee on Health Disparities Update

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Dr. Carla Ortique, review committee member and subcommittee chair.

Dr. Ortique stated:

- A tool to identify the evidence or presence of bias for all types of bias in the medical record is being developed
 - Work is being done at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) level
 - The Maternal Mortality Review Information Application (MMRIA) forms currently being used to track statistics, recommendations, contributing factors, and causes of death will be updated to acknowledge racism and bias as a contributing factor
 - Defining what constitutes racism and bias
 - Learning how to recognize racism and bias in a medical record
- Black women are three to four times more likely to die during pregnancy or the year after when compared to white women
- The efforts that have been made to date look mostly at hospital level changes, but a closing of the gap is still not happening
- In medical school, it is taught that black people are more prone to health conditions which is false and is a result of racism that perpetuates health disparities
- The subcommittee recommends implicit bias training for all members together to gain awareness and take away guilt and shame
- By recognizing the need to change and calling out policies that have created disparity and social determinants of health, awareness is raised

Agenda Item 5: Health and Human Services Commission Consult on Senate Bill (SB) 748 Maternal Teleservices Pilot Program

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Ms. Meghan Young, HHSC, Manager, Policy and Program Development Medicaid & CHIP Services. Ms. Young referenced the handout and PowerPoint, *SB748 Maternal Teleservices*.

Members discussed:

- Infrastructure and reimbursement being the biggest challenges for providers
- Billing for time spent on emails to and phone calls with patients
- Women, specifically black women, being included in surveys of acceptability for telemedicine
- Evaluating both rural and urban programs
- Conduct pilots by accessing information beyond the traditional claims data
 - Demographic characteristics

ACTION ITEM:

- Dr. Ramsey will forward the article *Implementing Telehealth in Practice* to Ms. Young.
- Dr. Hollier will forward a list of demographic characteristics to Ms. Young.

Agenda Item 6: SB17 Pregnancy Associated Outcome Measures

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Ms. Diana Forester, MPH, Research Analyst, Quality Assurance, Medicaid & CHIP Services. Ms. Forester referenced the handout and PowerPoint, *Pregnancy-Associated Outcome Measures*.

Members discussed:

- Insight as to why STAR+Plus is higher than the other categories
- The actual number of women who had preeclampsia
- Not disincentivizing treatment of women with high preeclampsia
- Facilities with a high rate of a measured outcome are penalized because of improved performance
- Presenting this information to the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Forester will provide data of women who had preeclampsia to members.

Agenda Item 7: Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee Operational Updates

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Mr. Jeremy Triplett, Maternal and Child Health Section Director, Department of State Health Services.

Mr. Triplett stated:

- The Maternal and Child Health Section hired:
 - Allison Waage
 - Erin Thompson
 - Regina Marshall
 - Gloria Mutombo
 - Kacey Russell
 - Aliyah AbdulWakil
- The Preventing Maternal Deaths grant is now called the Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality or Erase MM grant through the CDC
- Discussions will be had with members regarding the primary review process and helpful tools
- TexasAIM added another hospital to the roster, 218 of 224 hospitals
- June 8 and 9, 2020 TexasAIM Summit
- Two-day learning sessions in February in collaboration with Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and TeamSteps around AIM simulation
- Working closely with Texas Hospital Association and Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies for the next bundle, Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy Bundle.
- The pilot of the ten hospitals for use of the Maternal Early Warning Systems is complete and data is being used to develop statewide implementation strategies
- Estimated due date for the high-risk screening tool is to be determined
 - Meetings are going to commence regarding who, what, and how

Agenda Item 8: Future Agenda Items

Dr. Hollier opened discussion for new business at future meetings.

- HHSC Follow-up on previous presentations
- Update on Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mother and Babies

Agenda Item 9: Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Agenda Item 10: Executive Session

Dr. Hollier read the legislation allowing the Review Committee to go into closed executive session at 10:20 a.m.

Agenda Item 11: Open Session & Adjournment

Dr. Hollier opened the meeting at 3:18 p.m. to adjourn.

Webcast address: <https://texashhsc.swagit.com/play/03062020-680>