



CATRAC Mission: Lifeline Cardiac Care QI Sub-Workgroup

Thursday, August 6, 2009, 7:30- 9:30am
AHA Office 1700 Rutherford Austin, Tx

Minutes

Attendees: *Louis Gonzales BS LP, ATC/OMD; Ronda Mackey RN, St. David's HC; Peggy Cook RN, St. David's SAH; Andy Thompson 3rd yr. Resident; Ana Pechenik, Volunteer; Barbara Borman RN, Seton MC; Jennifer Blakely RN, Hosp at Westlake; Loni Denne RN BSN, AHA*

- I. Q&A regarding Mission: Lifeline purpose and QI subgroup purpose
- II. Immediate task assigned by leadership group: Baseline Intakes/Assessments for EMS agencies, Non-PCI hospitals and PCI hospitals

The first round of revisions/additions had already been made by Louis Gonzales and Loni Denne and were sent to the group ahead of the meeting to review.

Discussed definitions and the need to clearly define any items on the intake forms that are questionable.

Encouraged group to think “regionally” when reviewing the forms.

Group agreed to trial on their own staff in order to help identify areas that need clarification and additions.

Discussed the confidential nature of the work that the group will be doing and the need to keep information within the QI group. Data will be aggregated and/or de-identified so that no individual hospital or agencies data will be singled out.

- III. Next Steps are outlined in a note that Louis Gonzales sent to the group following the meeting:

Thank you for your interest in serving on the CATRAC Mission: Lifeline QI/PI & Data Management Sub-Workgroup. We had a very productive first meeting last week on August 6. Thanks to all who were able to attend. If you were not able to attend the meeting last week, Ronda and I are looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting (not yet scheduled). We also are inviting you to join in with our first action item. At the meeting, we assigned a person to contact those who were not present and to provide an update based on the meeting. If you have not heard from someone who attended the meeting, you should be getting a phone call or email soon.

As you probably know, the CATRAC Mission: Lifeline Cardiac Care Workgroup asked our sub-workgroup to revise the AHA Baseline Assessment survey forms (Intake Forms) for EMS agencies, PCI hospitals and Non-PCI hospitals. We took the draft assessment forms originally created by the North Carolina RACE program and modified them slightly. Our intent is to determine the present practices and data measures within our 11 county region. These assessment forms will go to all EMS Agencies who transport STEMI patients and to all PCI and Non-PCI hospitals in the region. The data measures were added to the assessment forms so that our sub-workgroup could get an idea of what data points are currently being captured and what data measures are currently being calculated. With regard to EMS, a separate assessment will be required later for first response agencies since the questions are a little different.

So, our first action item is to take the revised forms and review them with two things in mind.

First, do the questions make sense? Do we need to revise the wording or answer choices so that we can obtain more useful data? We do realize that our current lack of a data dictionary may make it difficult to answer some questions consistently. The value in this point is that we hope these realizations will then lead to the development of our regional data dictionary that is consistent with other national data definitions.

Second, have we missed any important assessment questions? Similarly, are there specific data measures that should be added to the list at this point in time? Again, we realize that the lack of clearly defined data definitions may result in some confusion. In some ways, you could argue that this discernment is needed in order for us to move to the next step of defining data points, data definitions and measures.

For your reference, I have attached the three draft documents for your review. Please feel free to insert your comments or suggestions within the document and email it to Louis Gonzales at louis.gonzales2@ci.austin.tx.us . At this point, you do NOT need to complete the assessment on behalf of your agency or hospital. At this time, we are simply refining the assessment forms.

At our meeting, we also defined the following action items and deadlines:

Action:

QI/PI sub-workgroup members review the three assessment forms and email feedback to Louis Gonzales

Due Date:

Before August 25, 2009

Action:

Louis Gonzales and Ronda Mackey to review feedback and revise assessments as appropriate; The revised versions will be emailed to Loni Denne

Due Date:

Before September 1, 2009

Action:

Loni Denne will provide the Cardiac Care Workgroup members with revised versions of the assessment forms for their review

Due Date:

Loni to email by September 2, 2009 and Workgroup members to review before the September 9, 2009 meeting

Following the September 9 Cardiac Care Workgroup meeting, we will schedule our next meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions about the above or about our QI/PI Sub-Workgroup in general.

Thanks again for your willingness to work with this group.

Louis Gonzales BS LP
ATC/OMD