



PHARMACY EXECUTIVES COUNCIL

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

12 – 1:30 p.m.

TMC Executive Offices – Trevisio

Council Members Present:

Joyce Tipton, Memorial Hermann
Lourdes Cuellar, Memorial Hermann
Dan Metzen, Houston Methodist
Lamar Pritchard, University of Houston
Thomas Schwartz, Houston Methodist
Joel D. Lajeunesse, MD Anderson
Jim Maddock, Memorial Hermann
Penny Carroll, Memorial Hermann
Edward Stemley, Texas Southern University
Alex Varkey, Houston Methodist
Donna Kyle, UTHealth
Cheryl Douglas, Debakey VA

Guest Speakers Present:

Ragael Pelippi, Houston Methodist
Hannah Suh, Houston Methodist
Nate Laurence, Houston Methodist
Zachary Menn, Houston Methodist
Ashlyn Proske, Houston Methodist
Jamie Finder, Houston Methodist
Abhay Patel, Texas Children's Hospital

TMC Members Present:

Dr. Tim Garson, Director of Health Policy
Tatum Boatwright, Marketing Associate

HIGHLIGHTS

- I. Welcome & Introductions – Daniel Metzen, Houston Methodist Hospital & Lourdes Cuellar, Memorial Hermann
 - The meeting commenced shortly after noon. Everyone present went around the room and introduced themselves.

- II. Guest Speaker: Population Health & Recent Developments – Dr. James Langabeer, UT Health
 - Dr. Langabeer shared the essentials of population health. Population Health is currently defined as looking into a group of people and improving the health needs of a defined group of people. Currently, at UTHealth they are focusing on the distribution of health outcomes within a population and the determinants that influence distribution.
 - The idea of population health has shifted over the years and has seen a transition from a pure public health definition to a more clinical population. The council was provided with statistics of projects UTHealth is focusing on that include:
 - Nutrition
 - Cancer
 - Mental Health
 - Substance Abuse
 - Etc.
 - When one focuses on population health management it is important to define these tasks as full circle. Looking into this process, one will need to define the population, identify care gaps & risks, engage your patients in the intervention, manage and deliver the care and then lastly measure, improve and compare the outcomes.
 - In conclusion, medications are critical components of care for high and medium patient populations and pharmacists play a key role as medication experts, healthcare professionals, and care managers.

- III. Transitions of Care – Rafael Felippi, PharmD, BCPS
 - The council was presented the Care Transition initiatives currently taking place at Houston Methodist Hospital. Dr. Felippi shared with the council on why care transitions are an area of concern and how pharmacists at Methodist are becoming involved in the initiative to improve transitional care.
 - The Care Navigator Program is composed of a multidisciplinary team from the Methodist hospital systems in Texas. The program started when nurses were being ask medication-related questions that not always they felt comfortable addressing them. Pharmacy residents during their Drug Information rotation piloted pharmacy collaboration within the department and collected data that a few months later were

presented to the Care Navigator department. Later that same year, one FTE was created for pharmacist and there was a total of 4 nurses as we also started getting direct hospital referrals. In 2016, with the addition of our Population health initiative and increased patient volume, we added another pharmacist and we so far have now 11 nurses and 2 pharmacists

- After Dr. Felippi's presentation, the council was able to ask questions about discharge counseling and different parts of the discharge process. They were able to address the main issue when discharging patients and explore the roles to improve the discharge process. In summary, pharmacists should explore opportunities to include pharmacy services within care transitions and population health initiatives.

IV. Updates & Events:

V. Action Items:

- **Council Members:** If you have any questions regarding population health please contact James Langabeer, Ph.D. (james.r.langabeer@uth.tmc.edu)

Next Meeting:

TBD

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