



Cancer Connect Collaborative

Virtual Meeting

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Opening

Robert Brooks, PhD, opened the meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. ET. Dr. Brooks, the Cancer Connect Collaborative (Collaborative) Coordinator, thanked the members and participants for attending and called the roll and achieved quorum. A list of attendees is included below.

Collaborative Members

- Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD, State Surgeon General, Chair
- Jason Weida, JD, Secretary, Agency for Health Care Administration
- Scot Ackerman, MD, Medical Director, Ackerman Cancer Center
- Nicholas Panetta, MD, FACS, Associate Professor in the Department of Plastic Surgery at the University of South Florida and the Department of Breast Oncology at the Moffitt Cancer Center
- Debbie Mayfield, Florida Representative of District 32

Others

Robert Brooks, PhD, Collaborative Coordinator, Florida Department of Health
Mr. Roger Andrews, Office of General Counsel, Florida Department of Health

Summary

Following the meeting opening, Dr. Brooks turned the meeting over to Dr. Ladapo, the designated chair. Dr. Ladapo welcomed the Collaborative members and made introductory remarks.

Dr. Brooks invited the members to introduce themselves and share comments regarding the Collaborative and its work. Members provided high-level background information, expressed that they were happy to be appointed to the Collaborative, and stated they looked forward to working on cancer innovation.

Dr. Ladapo thanked Senator Mayfield for sharing her perspective on families and how they also experience a loved one's cancer diagnosis and journey based on her late husband's experience with cancer. Then he introduced Mr. Roger Andrews, a Department of Health staff attorney in the Department's Office of the General Counsel.

Mr. Andrews provided a presentation covering key topics related to Florida's Sunshine law. A member asked a question regarding personal notes which are not a public record. The question concerned sharing personal notes with other Collaborative members. Mr. Andrews explained that once notes were shared with other members, they would become a public record.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Ackerman, based on his experience on the Board of Medicine (BOM), asked if the Collaborative has an assigned attorney to assist. Dr. Ladapo explained that unlike the BOM, the Collaborative, like other councils, would not have an



assigned attorney but would certainly have access to support from the Department's General Counsel staff.

Dr. Ladapo turned the meeting over to Dr. Brooks to review legislative changes that impact the Collaborative's work. Dr. Brooks focused the discussion on the three components of the required long-range plan. A summary of comments is included below each topic.

- *Expansion of grant fund opportunities to include a broader pool of Florida-based cancer centers, research institutions, biomedical education institutions, hospitals, and medical providers to receive funding through the Cancer Innovation Fund.*

General comments regarding data, collecting data in a more contemporary way, being nimble, recognizing what was true two years ago may not be true today. Specific discussion of smaller facilities where most cancer patients are treated, considering ways to pool these data, recognizing that larger facilities may only see certain groups of patients, e.g., those with resources to travel. These smaller facilities may not have the resources to meet existing patient volume metrics. Communication and how to ensure that word about the grant funding is getting out to these smaller facilities was also discussed. Return on investment was mentioned in this discussion as well as the technical capabilities of smaller facilities. Collaboration with and among smaller facilities was also discussed.

- *An evaluation to determine metrics that focus on patient outcomes, quality of care, and efficacy of treatment.*

Dr. Brooks shared a table of metrics that had been developed by staff as a starting point for this discussion. Collaborative members were generally positive about these measures. One member commented on the unique importance of certain measures, e.g., biomarker response. The discussion turned to issues around data and data timeliness. Are there options to use modern technology to extract data like private industry does? Dr. Brooks mentioned addressing the barriers to collecting these data and identifying what technology helps overcome data barriers.

- *A compilation of best practices relating to cancer research or treatment.*

Dr. Brooks asked the group to discuss what best practices represent and presented four possible areas for capturing best practices: (1) cancer screening and risk reduction, (2) cancer treatment, (3) cancer clinical management, and (4) cancer survivorship. A question was asked about the difference between cancer treatment and clinical overlap. Dr. Panetta expressed that he thought best practices could also be captured in three areas, prevention, treatment, and outcomes.

The group discussed these questions and related issues (e.g., how efficiently a patient is evaluated, has necessary tests, and other items). If a facility is unable to efficiently get imaging results and insurance authorized, this really impacts care. How patients are supported during treatment (e.g., navigating treatment, side effects) and how their families are supported were also raised as important issues. Senator Mayfield discussed her husband's illness and the importance of compassionate care for patients and families. Dr. Panetta summarized the overarching issues as access and capacity and mentioned the lack of providers and facilities to deliver care.

Closing

Dr. Ladapo wrapped up the discussion and shared with the group that they would discuss the grant application and award process at a subsequent meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation in the Collaborative and in today's meeting.

Dr. Brooks shared with the group that while the statute requires a quarterly meeting, because of reporting and other work, there may be a requirement for more frequent meetings in the next few months.

Online Guests*

Anderson, Matthew	Ivey, Alison M	Sotomayor, Eduardo
Beehler, Danielle M.	Josh A	Springer, Brian C
Beekman, Michelle	Kue, Jennifer	Stickle, Crystal
Cassedy, Lauren	Lewis, Anna Grace	Tometich, Danielle
Coley, Marti	McGlynn, Kim	Tuli, Richard
Corrales, Lindsay Elizabeth	Menon, Usha	Whitmore, Lauren Ashley
Costanzo, Ronald	Mullins, Donald	Wilson, Jamie
Delegal, Mark	Nye, Mary Alice	Young, Cortney
DeMeara, Davis	Pagan, Lazara	Zonka, Savannah
Dronca, Roxana S.	Palmer, Casey	
Dunn, Nathan P	Phoram	
Fernandez, Aleskia	Ross, Cameron	
George, Marnie	Samper, Christina	
George, Thomas J	Sirota, Pamela V	
Grow, Stefan	Smith, Layne M.	

*Some online guests were identified only by their phone numbers, initials, etc.; therefore, not reflected above.