



Louisiana Commission on HIV & Hepatitis C Education, Prevention, and Treatment

Tuesday, October 8, 2024
Louisiana State Capitol, Baton Rouge
House Committee Meeting Room 1 (in-person only)
9:00 AM

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

A. Meeting called to order at: 9:08 AM

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

II. Roll Call:

- A. 12 Members present
- B. Quorum not met.

Aisha McKenzie, Sr. Strategic Coordinator SHHP, LDH

III. Old Business:

A. Public Comment on Vote to Approve Minutes

- 1. N/A

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

B. Vote to Approve Minutes from 7/9/24, 5/13/24, 3/12/24 (and prior)

- 1. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 7/9/24 – no vote, quorum not met
- 2. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 5/13/24 – no vote, quorum not met
- 3. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 3/12/24 – no vote, quorum not met
- 4. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 4/20/22 – no vote, quorum not met
- 5. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 3/25/22 – no vote, quorum not met
- 6. Consensus vote to approve minutes from 10/8/21 – no vote, quorum not met

IV. New Business

A. Membership Committee Report

- 1. Dr. Griffin discussed that the membership committee has three (3) individuals they would like to recommend as nominees to put forward to the Commission, and has another possible candidate beginning the application process.
- 2. As quorum was not met, the review of candidates and vote of the Commission on nominations to forward to the Governor will be postponed to the November meeting.
- 3. Public Comment on Membership Committee Recommendations Vote
 - a. N/A, quorum not met
- 4. Vote on Membership Committee Recommendations for nominees to forward for appointment
 - a. N/A, quorum not met

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

Dr. Phillip Griffin, Committee Chair

B. Bylaws Committee Report

- 1. Dr. Kindall discussed with Bylaws Committee and does not see need for bylaws changes at this time.
- 2. Governor now has privilege of selecting/appointing the Chair of the Commission (Act 491). Until such time as Gov. Landry appoints a Chair, the Commission is to proceed with its normal selection process, which means an election in November as normal.
- 3. Capitol Staff informed the Commission that the broadcast was not transmitting sound at this point in the meeting (9:13 AM). The meeting was restarted (9:18 AM), with Chair offering a reintroduction and summary of everything covered until that point, and roll re-called.

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

V. Presentations

A. Louisiana 2023 Epi Report

- 1. Dr. Burgess, Director of the STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program for the state of Louisiana Department of Health presented the 2023 Epi Report for the state of Louisiana (covering Syphilis, Congenital Syphilis, Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, HIV, HCV).
- 2. Slide deck available upon request.

Dr. Sam Burgess, Director, SHHP, LDH

B. Louisiana Hepatitis C Elimination Plan Update

- 1. Anthony James, Deputy Director of the STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program for the state of Louisiana Department of Health presented an update on Louisiana's Hepatitis Elimination Plan as of 2023 data.
- 2. Slide deck available upon request.
- 3. Dr. Kindall clarified that the HCV Elimination Plan has been extended for one (1) year. Mr. James responded that there are six (6) models for dealing with HCV in our state.

Anthony James, Deputy Director, SHHP, LDH

Minutes taken by:

Aisha McKenzie

Sr. Strategic Coordinator, SHHP, LDH, Staff to the Commission

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4. Dr. Porter asked if failure rates were related to drug failure or adherence. Mr. James responded that they haven't done that analysis, but would posit that it might be a combination of both. He also pointed out that we must examine re-infection rates to look at how best to respond.

C. HIV Prevention in Black Women & Statewide PrEP Initiatives **Jacky Bickham, Prevention Manager, SHHP, LDH**

1. Jacky Bickham, Prevention Manager with the STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program for the state of Louisiana Department of Health presented on HIV prevention in populations of Black Women (in-line with Commission area of focus for 2024) and statewide PrEP initiatives. Presenting with Ms. Bickham were Black Women & PrEP (BWAP) Ambassadors/Influencers: Shantell Graham (BWAP Ambassador and CHW Region 2), Diedra Jessie-Hill (BWAP Ambassador, Adolescent Health Program Coordinator/SHHP), Dr. Erica M. Boseman (BWAP Influencer and Financial Advisor), and Dimitre Blutcher (BWAP Influencer).
2. BWAP works to address the two main obstacles for Black Women and PrEP they have found:
 - a. OB/GYN providers and PCPs not offering Black Women the opportunity for STI screenings or PrEP at their annual exams.
 - b. Black cisgender women do not know of other Black cisgender women taking PrEP.
3. BWAP is not a campaign to get women to take PrEP, but rather an effort to educate Black Women about the existence of PrEP via social media and through education of OB/GYN residents.
4. Slide deck available upon request.

D. Long-Acting Injectables for Prevention & Treatment **Dr. Tavell Kindall, Director, HIV Prevention and Treatment, St. Thomas Community Health Center**

1. Dr. Tavell Kindall, Director of HIV Prevention and Treatment at St. Thomas Community Health Center (and Chair of the Commission), presented on long-acting injectable medications for prevention and treatment of HIV.
2. HIV prevention and treatment in rural areas moved as a topic to November meeting agenda.
3. Slide deck available upon request.

E. Other Business

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

A. Announcements

1. Presentation slide decks will be distributed to Commissioners with meeting minutes. All public who wish to receive them may request to aisha.mckenzie@la.gov.
2. Dr. Burgess notes in response to Dr. Kindall's mention of HIV in rural areas that the state has not seen declines of new HIV transmissions in rural areas to mirror that of decline in Baton Rouge and New Orleans.
3. Dr. Burgess reminds Commission that rules are currently being promulgated for Act 711, to allow Pharmacists in Louisiana to initiate PrEP and PEP therapies. Public Comment will commence in late October or November and Commissioners will be informed at such a time.
4. Tamachia Davenport announced Black Men's Health Awareness event in New Orleans on Saturday and offered flyers to all present.

B. General Public Comment

1. Kayla Kling (Graduate Nursing Student) and Ali Carter (Graduate Nursing Student) with Southeastern Louisiana University asked if BWAP was targeting other providers not specific to OB/GYNs.
 - a. Discussion followed about BWAP's specific primary target of OB/GYNs, NPs doing a lot of GYN visits and not learning about PrEP (with the nursing students stating PrEP isn't included in their national curriculum guidelines), policy advocacy, and educational opportunities in this space.

C. Next Meeting Date: November 12, 2024 (hybrid), 9:00 AM

D. Adjournment

Dr. Tavell Kindall, Chair

- A. Tamachia Davenport Motioned to adjourn; Dr. George Nawas Seconded.
- B. Meeting adjourned at: 11:03 AM

ATTACHMENTS

Roll:

First Name	Last Name	10/8/2024
Marvin	Anderson	Absent
H. Glenn	Anderson, Jr.	Absent
Regina	Ashford Barrow	Absent
Anthony	Basco	Resigned
Angelee	Brown	Resigned

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Tanya	Brown	Resigned
Samuel	Burgess	Present
Aimee	Cloyd	Present
Tamachia	Davenport	Present
Tamara	Dioubate	Absent
Susan	Dupont	Present
Phillip	Griffin	Present
De Ann	Gruber	Absent
Mitchell	Handrich	Absent
Tavell	Kindall	Present
Myra	Kleinpeter	Absent
Randy	Lavespere	Present
Crystal	Lewis	Absent
Austin	Matthews	Absent
David	Mushatt	Present
George	Nawas	Present
Paulette	Pinargote Cornejo	Absent
Shayla	Polk	Present
Norma	Porter	Present
Lauren	Richey	Present
Meta	Smith-Davis	Absent
Joy	Walters	Absent

Presentation Slide Decks Attached:

1. 10-8-24 Sam Burgess LDH 2023 HIV HCV STI Epi Overview(1).pdf
2. 10-8-24 Anthony James Corrections and Medicaid HCV Treatment as of 24-08-21.pdf
3. 10-8-24 Jacky Bickham Presentation BWAP.pdf
4. 10-8-24 Tavell Kindall General Overview of Commercially Available Long Acting Injectable.pdf

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