



## National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention

**Thursday, January 31, 2013**

**1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**WebEx Teleconference**

**Notes**

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### Attendance

Via Webex: Frank Federico, IHI, (Chair); Ann Gaffey, ASHRM, (Vice-Chair); Marie-Michele Leger, AAPA; Lee Rucker, AARP; James Burris, AGS; Barry Dickinson, AMA; James Owen, APA; Joan Baird, ASCP; Bona Benjamin, ASHP; Don Martin, APSF; Deborah Myers, DoD; Capt. Carol Holquist, FDA; David Gaugh, GPA; Crystal Riley, TJC; Tara Modisett, NASPA; Scotti Russell, NABP; Deborah Davidson, NCPIC; Michael Garvin, PhRMA; JoAnne Resnic, SHM; Rita Brueckner, VA; Shawn Becker, USP, Diane Cousins; Rita Munley Gallagher; Deborah Nadzam; Manisha Shah

Alternate Delegate Attending with the Delegate: Donna Bohannon, USP

Absent: AHA; ANA; ISMP; NCSBN; NPSF

Observers: Donna Goldberg, USP

### **Thursday, January 31, 2013**

The meeting was called to order a few minutes after 1:00pm, Ms. Becker took roll call and turned the meeting over to Mr. Federico who asked for an approval of the summary from the October 26, 2012 meeting. Ms. Leger moved to approve the meeting minutes, it was seconded and the vote passed. Mr. Federico then asked for an approval of today's agenda. Ms. Modisett moved to approve the agenda, it was seconded and the vote passed.

### Secretariat's Report

#### Absent Member

Ms. Becker gave the secretariat's report, stating that despite multiple contacts from NCC MERP members, the American Hospital Association, a founding member of NCC MERP, was not present today, nor have they been present since August 2011. After discussion, members agreed that if the AHA representative misses the next meeting, which is the in-person meeting at USP (Rockville, MD) on May 29, 2013, then AHA membership will be changed to that of Observer.

#### New Member

Ms. Becker asked Mr. Federico to introduce our guest and the next item of business: a request for membership. Mr. Federico introduced Christian Hartman, Pharm.D, who is President of the American Society of Medication Safety Officers (ASMSO), and said this type of organization is a very close match to the work NCC MERP does. Dr. Hartman presented slides on ASMSO's mission, policy and role in medication safety.

The mission of the American Society of Medication Safety Officers (ASMSO) is to advance and encourage excellence in safe medication use by providing communication, leadership, direction, and education among its members.

Dr. Hartman stated that membership would be beneficial given the close alignment with the work that both ASMSO and NCC MERP produce; he left the meeting to allow NCC MERP members to vote. Mr. Federico called for discussion and a vote to invite the ASMSO as a member. The Council members agreed that ASMSO would be a good fit; many of the NCC MERP members have already benefitted from the work ASMSO produces, and stated that their membership are practitioners working on the front line. Ms. Shah

moved to allow ASMSO as a member, it was seconded and the vote passed with 3 abstentions Dr. Hartman was contacted to rejoin today's meeting as the member delegate from ASMSO.

#### Subcommittee Reports

##### Rules & Procedures

Ms. Cousins reported on the clarification of the category "Observer" in the newly revised NCC MERP Rules & Procedures. She presented and explained the content change, which removed mention of referenced guidelines that had explained media protocol; as well as reference to the category, "Observer Status," which was replaced by the remaining category "Observer". Ms. Becker moved to adopt the new revisions and post to the NCC MERP website, it was seconded, and the vote passed, there was one abstention.

##### Definition of ADE/ADR

Dr. Nadzam mentioned that she had not attended the last two ADE/ADR subcommittee meetings and asked for help from her subcommittee. Dr. Brueckner presented the algorithm and explained the new direction and new title: *Categorizing Adverse Drug Events (ADE): Distinguishing Medication Error (ME) from Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR)*. Members did not agree that the title reflected the intent of the algorithm; they also questioned specific steps along the way. It was suggested to use different colors to define decision points, and a request was made for the definitions to be placed more prominently on the chart. A definition for "harm" should also be included. The subcommittee will work on these changes during their next meetings.

##### Statements & Recommendations

Dr. Dickinson reported from the subcommittee on Statements & Recommendations, and said the subcommittee is continuing to review the Council recommendations. He presented three examples of work which showed need for revision. He spoke of revisions that will respond to current practice and emerging technologies. The recommendation on whether to revise the statements will be presented to the Council at the next meeting in May.

##### Website Development

Ms. Resnic gave an overview of the work from the Website Development subcommittee, and presented changes from the website. She reinforced the need for all members to check if they have a link to the NCC MERP website on their organization/agency website, and that the NCC MERP link should be placed under the organization's medication error/patient safety webpage. She mentioned that her subcommittee would continue to contact all members until this is done. Ms. Resnic also stressed the need to help get word out about the website and to give feedback to her subcommittee. One subcommittee member requested the possibility of expanding the patient safety area of the NCC MERP website to include relevant patient safety related links from non-member websites; this request would need the Council's approval, and the subcommittee will discuss this further. Ms. Resnic shared design plans for the website's new look. Council members also asked about the possibility of using an RSS feed to help get current news out to members and interested parties quicker. USP staff replied that they will look into this possibility.

##### Update on Activities

##### Other News:

Mr. Federico asked council members to report on their medication safety work; discussion follows:

Dr. Garvin reporting from **PhRMA** gave information on 3 upcoming FDA guidance reports and that the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America would submit comments when open for comment, the 3 guidance's will cover the topics: 1) Safety consideration for medical device/product design 2) Container labels, and 3) Nomenclature.

Ms. Benjamin reported on the **ASHP's** work with the FDA on compounding issues, and their on-going discussions with government to define rules and mechanisms to address the infrastructure of

compounding practitioners amidst needs and drug shortages. She continued that drug shortages recently came to the highest number ever at 299 shortages; and she informed everyone about the coverage on ASHP's website.

Dr. Hartman reported on the work from **ASMSO**, and of his own involvement at the request of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to Chair a Special Commission on Compounding Pharmacies, and the work that's being discussed on legislation related to the practice of compounding.

Ms. Rucker informed members of the work by **AARP** and her collaboration with the Access Board, USP, industry and consumer groups, on patient centered labels to improve readability and comprehension and to assist the patient who is visually impaired or blind. She also mentioned a new involvement with PEW Charitable Trust on antibiotics. She asked Ms. Bohannon to give more detail about the work of the Access Board.

Ms. Bohannon reporting from **USP**, spoke on the Access Board and its ties to general chapter <17> *Prescription Container Labeling*. Ms. Bohannon also described how USP is involved with Heparin labeling changes that will reflect both unit strength/mL and total strength/mL on vials and product inserts, and that USP will offer educational webinars on the labeling changes; she also mentioned the tools available on USP and the FDA website.

#### New Business, Member Updates and Requests

Mr. Federico thanked the subcommittees for their on-going work and asked members to suggest a timeline or routine, e.g. as other organizations do, to help assure that NCC MERP's materials stay current and attractive. He called for the need to engage in routine reviews at face-to-face meetings to assure work stays current.

Members shared ideas from their own organizations and made additional suggestions ranging from reviews at least once a year, to every five or ten years. A few members shared their sunset policy, wherein they make decisions every 2 to 10 years to revise, approve or sunset their current recommendations. Members agreed that it would be good for the NCC MERP members to conduct routine review when the subcommittees meet during the face to face meetings. Mr. Federico stated that he would like to hear from Council members on ways to assure that our content remains current; members agreed to report back at the next meeting.

Mr. Federico and Ms. Gaffey asked members for future meeting topics. A suggestion to invite experts to in-person meetings to speak on current issues and trends, such as medication safety and medication error with CPOE, was well received by those present. The Council members agreed that inviting speakers is something that could help everyone and would be another benefit to membership. Both Mr. Federico and Ms. Gaffey asked members to suggest speakers and areas of interest.

#### Member rounds - Identification of select organizations

Aside from member update on activities, Mr. Federico asked if the council would like to hear from its member organizations, something he and Ms. Gaffey feel would be of interest to all. The Council members agreed that it would be helpful to hear about highlights from membership per organization/agency and the role each plays in medication and patient safety. Mr. Federico asked for volunteers to speak for 3 – 5 minutes to introduce their work and address how they are contributing to the minimization or elimination of harm from medication errors.

4 members volunteered to participate in the member rounds for the upcoming meeting in May 2013. The organizations are: IHI (Frank Federico), ASHRM (Ann Gaffey), NABP (Scotti Russell), NCPIE (Deborah Davidson).

#### Next Steps and Next Meeting Date

Mr. Federico thanked members for their involvement and discussion throughout the meeting, especially during the member updates, and stated that he would like to continue this at every meeting. He also reinforced the need to help publicize the work from NCC MERP, by sharing our website and materials with others and/or contributing information about NCC MERP to newsletters and through member outreach.

Ms. Gaffey reminded members that the next NCC MERP meeting will be an in-person meeting at USP headquarters (Rockville, MD) on **Wednesday, May 29**, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.