

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**MEETING OF:**

**PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY**

ZOOM MEETING

TIME: 1:14 P.M.

DATE: MARCH 16, 2023

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**Patient Safety Authority****March 16, 2023**

1  
2 Nirmal Joshi, M.D., Chair  
3 Daniel Glunk, M.D.  
4 William Wenner, M.D.  
5 Eric Weitz, Esquire  
6 Kathleen Law, M.D.  
7 Linda Waddell, R.N.  
8 Veronica Richards, Esquire  
9 Amelia Paré, M.D.  
10  
11 Also Present:  
12  
13 Rodney Akers, Esquire  
14 Caitlyn Allen, Director of Engagement & Publications  
15 Tony Arnold, Business Operations Manager  
16 Michelle Bell, Director of Outreach and Education  
17 Amanda Bennett, Infection Preventionist  
18 Christine Bingman, Infection Preventionist  
19 Shirley Dominick, Patient Safety Liaison  
20 Kelly Gipson, Project Manager  
21 Regina Hoffman, Executive Director  
22 Becky Jones, Director of Data Science and Research  
23 Shawn Kepner, Data Analyst  
24 Rick Kundravi, Senior Patient Safety Liaison  
25 Christopher Mamrol, Senior Patient Safety Liaison  
26 Karen McKinnon-Lipsett, Administrative Specialist  
27 Shelly Mixell, Administrative Specialist  
28 Melanie Motts, Senior Patient Safety Liaison  
29 Howard Newstadt, Financial Director and CIO  
30 Jessica Oaks, Program Manager  
31 Molly Quesenberry, Patient Safety Liaison  
32 Cathy Reynolds, Senior Patient Safety Liaison  
33 Sunny Ro, Patient Safety Analyst  
34 Christine Sanchez, Patient Safety Analyst  
35 Megan Shetterly, Senior Patient Safety Liaison  
36 Krista Sorvino, Communications Specialist  
37 Heather Stone, Administrative Specialist  
38 Matthew Taylor, Patient Safety Analyst  
39 Alex Ulsh, IT Systems Administrator  
40 Robert Yonash, Senior Patient Safety Liaison

York Stenographic Services, Inc.

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- 1 Dave Eppley, Program Manager, Gainwell Technologies
- 2 Patrick O'Rourke, Health Cmte./House Democratic Caucus
- 3 Mary Ellen Mannix, Public
- 4 Robert Shipp, HAP
- 5 Jolene Calla, HAP
- 6 Dominic Adams, CHOP
- 7 Diana Artemis, Public
- 8 Maureen Barnes, Cassatt Patient Safety Organization
- 9 Alyson Deveney (CHOP)
- 10 Roberta Jones (UPMC)
- 11 Amy Meehan, Cassatt Patient Safety Organization
- 12 Travis Mitchell, Public
- 13 Mary Kay Schwemmer (CHOP)
- 14 Colleen Downey, PA Health Insurance (Blue Cross)
- 15 Byron Aldinger, York Steno Reporter



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3 **Executive Session**

4 March 16, 2023 at 12:30 PM ET  
5 Location: Zoom (Virtual Meeting)  
6

7 Consideration of personnel matters and to engage in non-  
8 deliberative informational discussions regarding various  
9 actions and matters which have been approved at previous  
10 public meetings.  
11

12 **Public Meeting**

13 March 16, 2023 at 1:00 PM ET  
14 Location: Zoom (Virtual Meeting)  
15

16 **Agenda**  
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- 20 I. Call to Order
  - 21
  - 22 II. Roll Call
  - 23
  - 24 III. Approval of the January 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes
  - 25
  - 26 IV. Report of Board Chair
  - 27
  - 28 V. Executive Director Report
  - 29
  - 30 VI. Old Business
  - 31
  - 32 a. Evaluation of Event Reporting and Investigation Data
  - 33
  - 34 VII. New Business
  - 35
  - 36 VIII. Public Comment
  - 37
  - 38 IX. Adjournment
  - 39
  - 40



1 went on to advise that the Data Science and Research  
2 Team has identified the first deep analysis that will  
3 be conducted, once the plan to collect investigation  
4 information from healthcare facilities has been  
5 executed. In that regard, she advised that a  
6 preliminary analysis was performed on the number of  
7 serious events related to neonatal complications  
8 between 2018 and 2022. The plan is to review the  
9 information contained in the facility investigation  
10 reports to see if there are common threads, if there  
11 are trends, and then be able to make specific  
12 recommendations to prevent recurrence. Ms. Hoffman  
13 advised that the Diagnostic Improvement Team is  
14 continuing with the pilot study of a comprehensive  
15 assessment tool to measure organizational maturity  
16 across key domains of diagnostic excellence in  
17 Pennsylvania hospitals. She advised that as of this  
18 month, 20 hospitals have attended the virtual  
19 orientation meeting, two hospitals are in the final  
20 stage of the project, and two have successfully  
21 completed the project. Preliminary results are  
22 expected in the fall of 2023. Ms. Hoffman went on to  
23 report that the patient safety officer basics training

1 will be held in May, comprising of four modules, 90  
2 minutes each. She went on to advise that the Out-of-  
3 the-Box series continues with webinars on March 30,  
4 the end of April, and the end of May. Ms. Hoffman  
5 also advised that all new patient safety officers are  
6 offered orientation to their MCARE obligations and  
7 their role in their organization by PSA staff. Ms.  
8 Hoffman explained that the March issue of Patient  
9 Safety will be published next week. The slight delay  
10 is due to a change in hosting platforms. Ms. Hoffman  
11 reported that there have been no anonymous reports  
12 since the last Board meeting. She concluded her  
13 report by advising that as of March 2, the treasury  
14 invested cash balance in the trust fund is  
15 \$8.8 million, which is adequate to provide for cash  
16 activities through the end of this year and into next  
17 fiscal year.]

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19 Old Business

20 [Regina Hoffman, Executive Director, gave a report on  
21 Evaluation of Event Reporting and Investigation Data.  
22 She advised that she and Dr. Joshi met with Mr. Carter  
23 and his staff at the Hospital Association (HAP) on

1 February 27. She advised that they shared the PSA's  
2 goals and why the approved work plans are being  
3 implemented. She also advised that they had the  
4 opportunity to hear some of the concerns that HAP has  
5 been hearing from their hospital members. As a  
6 result, HAP requested a workgroup consisting of  
7 representatives from its staff, its members, and PSA  
8 to better understand the Authority's objectives and  
9 hopes, and how that is being accomplished. Ms.  
10 Hoffman advised that she would present this to the  
11 Board to determine the most appropriate course  
12 forward. Eric Weitz inquired when the data collection  
13 will begin, and Dr. Joshi advised that since it has  
14 already been slightly delayed, the hope is that it  
15 will be around April 17. Ms. Hoffman further reported  
16 that an ad hoc Board committee met on Tuesday, March  
17 14 to gather information related to Board members'  
18 requests for facility-specific information. She went  
19 on to advise that everything is given in aggregate for  
20 the committee to work on a draft, which would then be  
21 sent to legal counsel for review, and then shared with  
22 the Board for deliberation at a future meeting.]

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1 New Business

2 [Regina Hoffman, Executive Director, advised that a  
3 request was received yesterday to testify at a House  
4 Health Committee hearing to look at MCARE overall, how  
5 the Authority is meeting that mandate, are there  
6 roadblocks to meeting it, and are there things that  
7 could be done differently to help facilitate those end  
8 goals of keeping all patients in Pennsylvania safe.  
9 She advised that she will update when she has more  
10 details.]

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12 Public Comment

13 [Patrick O'Rourke, Health Committee/House Democratic  
14 Caucus, added to Ms. Hoffman's comment about the  
15 request to testify, and advised that they are looking  
16 to conduct a Health Committee informational hearing on  
17 their role to provide oversight over PSA operations.  
18 He advised that the meeting is still in the  
19 organizational phase, and once he has a definitive  
20 date and what their expectations are, he will share  
21 that with the Board.]

22 [Maureen Barnes, Cassatt Patient Safety Organization,  
23 raised a question regarding the event reporting and

1 investigation data request, and the workgroup with  
2 HAP. She inquired if there will be information put  
3 out in advance to the organizations so that they  
4 understand what the proposal is prior to putting out  
5 the final directive. Ms. Hoffman explained that the  
6 Authority does know what the first data request will  
7 be. She explained that when that goes out around  
8 April 17, there will be detailed instructions for the  
9 facilities. Ms. Barnes also requested that the  
10 Authority identify the most appropriate persons at the  
11 PSA for facilities to direct questions. Ms. Hoffman  
12 explained that the facility's Patient Safety Officer  
13 should contact their respective Patient Safety Liaison  
14 who should be able to answer all questions, however,  
15 they can also feel free to contact Ms. Hoffman  
16 directly. Eric Weitz also invited Ms. Barnes to share  
17 her organization's internal processes regarding  
18 analyzing, reporting, underreporting. Ms. Barnes  
19 advised that her organization did submit comments to  
20 the Patient Safety Authority about losing peer review  
21 protection at the federal level. Mr. Weitz advised  
22 that the Authority has no desire to impact any  
23 privilege, force any waiver, or have any identifying

1 information, but are merely interested in the  
2 integrity of the reporting process. He again  
3 reiterated the request for information on any  
4 effective procedures her organization may have.]

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6 [The meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.]

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Byron Aldinger  
10 Minute Clerk  
11 York Stenographic Services  
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PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY  
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 REFERENCE INDEX  
 MARCH 16, 2023

	COUNTER	
TIME	NUMBER	AGENDA
1:14	00:09	Call to Order
	00:14	Roll Call
	1:01	Approval of the January 26, 2023, Meeting Minutes
	1:18	Report of Board Chair, Nirmal Joshi, M.D.
	3:03	Executive Director Report, Regina Hoffman
	7:39	Old Business, Evaluation of Event Reporting and Investigation Data, Regina Hoffman
	13:52	New Business, Regina Hoffman
	14:57	Public Comment, Patrick O'Rourke, Maureen Barnes
	21:44	Adjournment