

APPROVED MINUTES

MEETING OF:

PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

ZOOM MEETING

TIME: 1:09 P.M.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Patient Safety Authority**September 22, 2022**

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

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1 Donald Reihart, Esq., Donald Reihart Law Offices
2 Sharon Hibay, Advanced Health Outcomes
3 Nicole Swope, Penn State Health
4 Byron Aldinger, York Steno Reporter, Transcriber
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3 **Executive Session**

4 September 22, 2022 at 12:30 PM ET
5 Location: Zoom (Virtual Meeting)
6

7 Consideration of personnel matters and to engage in non-
8 deliberative
9 informational discussions regarding various actions and
10 matters which
11 have been approved at previous public meetings.
12

13 **Public Meeting**

14 September 22, 2022 at 1:00 PM ET
15 Location: Zoom (Virtual Meeting)
16

17 **Agenda**
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- 20
- 21 I. Call to Order
 - 22
 - 23 II. Roll Call
 - 24
 - 25 III. Approval of the June 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 - 26
 - 27 IV. Report of Board Chair
 - 28
 - 29 V. Executive Director Report
 - 30
 - 31 VI. Old Business
 - 32 a. Board education
 - 33
 - 34 VII. New Business
 - 35 a. Approval of 2022-2023 Budget
 - 36
 - 37 VIII. Public Comment
 - 38
 - 39 IX. Adjournment
 - 40
 - 41

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2 PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

3 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Patient Safety
4 Authority was held via a Zoom call on Thursday,
5 September 22, 2022. Nirmal Joshi, M.D., Chair, called
6 the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

7 ***

8 A motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2022,
9 carried unanimously.

10 ***

11 Report of Board Chair

12 [Dr. Joshi, Chair, yielded his time to Ms. Hoffman for
13 her presentation.]

14 ***

15 Executive Director Report

16 [Regina Hoffman, Executive Director, began by
17 introducing and welcoming Sunny Ro, Patient Safety
18 Analyst to the Authority. Ms. Hoffman then gave an
19 update of the several actions that have been taken to
20 help improve event reporting across the Commonwealth.
21 She advised that as a result of the annual low volume
22 reporter analysis, letters were sent to the
23 facilities, which included language making them aware

1 that failure to improve would result in a copy to the
2 Department of Health for the purpose of an increased
3 focus during any licensure or complaint surveys. Ms.
4 Hoffman went on to report that the current function in
5 PA-PSRS that allows facilities to downgrade serious
6 events to incidents is going to be disabled in the
7 December PSRS update. After the update, a request
8 will come to the Authority, with an explanation as to
9 why the facility wants to downgrade the event. If the
10 Authority needs additional information, that can be
11 accomplished with the facility before that function is
12 turned on for them to make the amendment. Ms. Hoffman
13 advised that the Data Science Research Team is in the
14 process of using a natural language processing text
15 approach, followed by manual review and evaluation of
16 methods to identify incidents in PA-PSRS that are
17 likely to be serious events. Ms. Hoffman also made
18 aware of the webinar series scheduled to run January
19 2023 through April 2023 which targets out-of-the-box
20 thinking related to identifying reportable events.
21 Ms. Hoffman outlined some future actions being taken
22 to improve reporting and the quality of reporting and
23 went on to advise that in October facilities will be

1 able to upload their investigations or other documents
2 directly into PA-PSRS. In addition, beginning January
3 2023, there will be a shift by the Outreach and
4 Education Team to focus on looking at and evaluating
5 reporting in facilities, for the purpose of
6 identifying opportunities to improve reporting. A
7 detailed plan will be shared with the Board at the
8 December meeting.]

9

10 Old Business

11 [Regina Hoffman gave a follow-up on the issue of Board
12 education, which was discussed at the last meeting.
13 She advised that she sent out a survey to determine
14 the topics that should be covered. In addition to the
15 four key topics of education she outlined, Board
16 members were provided three additional items and were
17 asked to prioritize. There were also 15 different
18 items that Board members handwrote. Ms. Hoffman
19 advised that some will be included in presentations
20 but proposed that most could be accomplished in a
21 10-minutes-or-less webinar. She did advise that the
22 Patient Safety Reporting Systems topic would be best
23 covered in a document.]

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2 New Business

3 [Howard Newstadt, Financial Director and CIO gave an
4 in-depth presentation of the staff budget proposal for
5 fiscal '22/'23, from July 1, 2022, through June 30,
6 2023. He outlined the surpluses from the prior year's
7 budget, assessments, and investment income, and
8 detailed the increases in the current year's budget,
9 and proposed to approve the fiscal '22 budget totaling
10 \$7.7 million. Dr. Wenner made a motion to approve the
11 Authority's fiscal year '22/'23 budget as outlined.
12 The motion was seconded by Dr. Paré and passed
13 unanimously.]

14

15 [Regina Hoffman informed the Board that the Patient
16 Safety Authority became aware through the media of
17 potential patient safety issues in a Pennsylvania
18 hospital. They did not come through the normal
19 PA-PSRS system. After surveys were completed by CMS,
20 there are still concerns that there are potential
21 patient safety issues in that facility. As a result,
22 the PSA will follow up with the facility in an effort
23 to understand what occurred, what some of the issues

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1 are, what types of reports were or were not made to
2 the Patient Safety Authority, and to identify
3 opportunities to prevent similar occurrences in the
4 future.]

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6 Public Comment

7 [Donald Reihart, Esq, Donald Reihart Law office, (from
8 the public), advised that he is a practicing attorney
9 in York, Pennsylvania. His comment was regarding
10 issues involving the use of Patient Safety Advisories
11 in litigation that he has been involved in, and the
12 fact that they were not being used effectively, and
13 were not carrying out, in his opinion, the intent of
14 the legislature when the Authority was established.
15 He detailed a case that he litigated and explained
16 some of the issues that arose while his expert was
17 referencing the Advisory. Dr. Wenner requested that
18 Mr. Reihart submit in writing what he would like the
19 PSA to consider and address.]

20 ***

21 [Dr. Sharon Hibay, Advanced Health Outcomes (from the
22 public), had questions about some of the methodologies
23 used by the PSA to identify patient safety events or

1 trends that are not reporting-based. She advised that
2 she is working with CMS on a patient safety expert
3 panel and drawing comments on how to identify patients
4 who are at risk. She inquired if the Board could
5 direct her to anything specifically that has been
6 published to aid in her research. Dr. Hibay went on
7 to praise the work of the Authority and advised that
8 the data is used to understand national trends or to
9 comment on best practices. Rodney Akers, attorney for
10 Patient Safety Authority, interjected and reminded Dr.
11 Hibay that the public comment period should be
12 utilized to make comments. He requested if Dr. Hibay
13 would like specific information of the Authority, that
14 she submit that request in writing to the Executive
15 Director or the Chair.]

16 ***

17 [The meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.]

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Byron Aldinger
Minute Clerk
York Stenographic Services

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PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REFERENCE INDEX
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

TIME	COUNTER NUMBER	AGENDA
1:09	00:36	Call to Order
	00:42	Roll Call
	4:40	Approval of the June 23, 2022, Meeting Minutes
	4:56	Report of Board Chair, Nirmal Joshi, M.D.
	5:01	Executive Director Report, Regina Hoffman
	12:07	Old Business, Board Education, Regina Hoffman
	18:06	New Business, Approval of 2022-2023 Budget, Howard Newstadt
	42:33	New Business, Potential Patient Safety Issues Discovered Through The Media, Regina Hoffman
	46:10	Public Comment
	1:06:47	Adjournment