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**State Board of Health Policy Subcommittee**

**May 7, 2020**

**1:00pm**

**Minutes**

Location

WebEx:

+1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)

+1-415-655-0002 US Toll

Meeting number (access code): 805 232 080

Meeting password: GapmF2KcW92

Minutes

1. Call to Order—1:03pm
  - a. Members present by audio/video: Damon Arnold, Rashmi Chugh, John Herrmann, Janice Phillips, Julie Pryde, Esther Sciammarella, Susan Swider, Sameer Vohra
  - b. Guests present by audio or video: Chris Wade
  - c. IDPH staff present by audio or video: Allison Nickrent
2. There was no one registered to provide public comment.
3. New Business
  - a. Socially distanced activities
    - i. Restore Illinois has been released, the Governor has expressed that it this pandemic is a fluid situation, and the state can move forward or regress based on the data
      1. Dr. Chugh notes: This has given local health departments guidance for the local elected officials and business owners to refer to, and guides how to reopen safely
    - ii. CDC report is embargoed by the White House and details return to activities, discusses such things as social distancing in schools, workplaces, etc.
      1. Dr. Arnold recommends looking at that report when it is released
    - iii. The question in front of the board: how can outdoor and recreational sports be changed to promote social distancing and make them safer?
      1. Dr. Herrmann proposes a new subcommittee for this issue
        - a. Dr. Arnold makes the motion, he has a second
        - b. Dr. Herrmann will volunteer to be the chair
      2. Ms. Sciammarella suggests the board reviews what is currently going on, what kind of guidance has already been issued and how it can be improved or use in other ways
  - b. Scope of practice changes to address mass vaccination needs
    - i. What are the types of professions that could be mobilized to give vaccines for COVID-19?
      1. Any legislative changes will need to be asked to support our legislative initiative to give them that ability

2. The Director would like a list of potential professions that could assist if their scope of practice was changed through legislation
    - ii. Allison will find relevant statute contained in the Emergency Management Act regarding scope of practice during an emergent situation
  - c. Guidance for transferring patients back from hospitals to long-term care facilities
    - i. There is existing guidance out there, which Dr. Chugh mentions has been very helpful in clarifying policies
    - ii. However, there is still some resistance to re-accepting patients from acute care settings to long-term care facilities
    - iii. Dr. Chugh suggests pairing this document with an April 14<sup>th</sup> table that helps clarify
      1. Also suggests adding a link or language around PPE use as well as information about staffing use
    - iv. CDC testing criteria has changed over time due to expanded knowledge
      1. There is now no preference between test-based and symptom-based clearance for release from isolation; testing negative is no longer standard for accepting a transfer
        - a. Dr. Chugh suggests that this be included in the guidance
      2. Residents should remain in a 14-day quarantine after leaving the hospital whether or not symptoms are present
    - v. Transmission-based precautions should be clarified
    - vi. Universal masking has been implemented in long-term care facilities
    - vii. Ms. Sciammerella expressed concern about protocols for decision-making for transfers
      1. Allison will look for guidance about transfers
  - d. Immunization campaign for influenza
    - i. Dr. Arnold wants to move an immunization campaign for influenza to August in anticipation of a possible second wave of coronavirus in order to protect healthcare workers, hospital availability, and PPE supplies
    - ii. Ms. Pryde agrees, it was suggested to the University of Illinois to make flu vaccine mandatory during pandemic. She would like to recommend that IDPH make flu mandatory for long-term care facilities, daycare, etc. during pandemic.
    - iii. Allison was asked to pull documents from the guidance that was used during the H1N1 outbreak for the board to review
    - iv. Concern that child immunization schedules have not been kept up with, worried about epidemic on top of pandemic
4. Next steps
  - a. Influenza immunizations and activities will be on the next Policy Subcommittee agenda
  - b. Next meeting will be two hours long
    - i. Allison can ask the Director if she would like the Policy Subcommittee to look at equity in testing and immunizations as well as data collection
  - c. Dr. Arnold will be sending out emails to understand availability for the next meeting, shooting for June 11
5. Upcoming meetings:
  - a. **State Board of Health - 11:00 - 1:00 PM**

- i. Thursday, June 4, 2020
- ii. Thursday, September 10, 2020
- iii. Thursday, December 3, 2020

**b. State Board of Health - Policy – 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

- i. Thursday, August 6, 2020
- ii. Thursday, November 12, 2020

**c. State Board of Health – Rules – 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

- i. Thursday, August 6, 2020
- ii. Thursday, November 12, 2020

6. Adjournment—2:07pm