

Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Services Implementation Task Force

Friday, June 25, 2021

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Meeting Minutes

I. Opening Remarks and Roll Call

- Karen Senger, Task Force Co-Chair, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), called the meeting to order at 1:01pm. The meeting was held electronically pursuant to Public Act 101-0649 and a verbatim audio and video recording of this meeting was made. This recording is available online. Please email sane@ilag.gov to request a link to the recording.
- Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present. The Roll Call vote can be found at the end of the minutes.

II. Approval of February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- The February 25, 2021 meeting minutes are in the process of being drafted and will be made available to Task Force members at a later date, to be voted upon at a later meeting.

III. Illinois Department of Public Health Update

- Karen Senger provided an IDPH updated.
- Beginning the 4th quarter of 2021, IDPH will begin sending out reminders to hospitals to submit a new sexual assault treatment plan, which are due every 3 years. Once a reminder is sent, hospitals will have 60 days to submit their new plans.
- Hospital data reports are due to IDPH by July 15, 2021
- Number of facilities by date and type:

	2019	Early 2020	Nov. 2020	Feb. 2021	Jun. 2021
Treatment	110	93	89	85	85
Treatment with Approved Pediatric Transfer	41	50	51	52	51
Transfer	40	43	46	49	50
Approved Pediatric Health Care Facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-State Hospitals	2	2	2	2	2
Federally Qualified Health Care Facilities	0	0	0	2	2

- Karen provided a summary of site visits conducted January – June 2021. IDPH conducted site visits predominantly in Central and Southern Illinois at:
 - 15 Treatment Hospitals
 - 4 Treatment Hospitals with Approved Pediatric Transfer
 - 15 Transfer Hospitals
 - 6 Complaints
 - 2 FQHCs

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- Transfer Hospitals Update
 - Transfer hospitals must provide medical services, such as STI/HVI prophylaxis, to a patient if the patient declines to be transferred to a Treatment Hospital.
 - Transfer hospitals should offer to call a rape crisis center or a support person to assist with the transfer.
 - Transfer Hospitals must notify law enforcement even if patient is transferred to a Treatment Hospital
 - Transfer hospitals cannot ask a patient to pay for out-of-pocket expenses, even though they cannot issue a voucher. Concerns were expressed by Task Force members regarding SASETA's prohibition of Transfer Hospitals issuing vouchers. Patients who decline to be transferred may apply for Crime Victim Compensation for reimbursement of the cost of follow-up care.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers Update - 2 approved
- Approved Pediatric Health Care Centers Update - 0 applied
- Out-of-State Hospitals Update - 2 approved
- Administrative Rules Update
 - Updated rules regarding the Illinois State Police Kit Tracking Program and the definition and process for Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners were published today in the Illinois Register for a 45-day public comment period.

IV. Office of the Illinois Attorney General Update

- 2021 SANE Training Schedule:
 - Pediatric/Adolescent SANE Training: March 29th – April 1st
 - Adult/Adolescent SANE Training: April 26th – April 29th
 - Adult/Adolescent SANE Training: July 12th – July 15th
 - Pediatric/Adolescent SANE Training: August 23rd – August 26th \
 - Adult/Adolescent SANE Training: September 13th – September 16th \
- 2021 Foundation to Provide Sexual Assault Patient Care in the Emergency Room Training Schedule
 - February 10th, May 10th, June 15th, August 12th, October 20th, December 10th
- Reviewed training numbers for October 2020 – April 2021
- Reviewed Illinois SANE Training, Completion, and Certification Data.
 - In 2021, an increase of 31 AA SANEs and 7 Nationally Certified SANE-As
 - In 2021, an increase of 3 PA SANEs and 5 Nationally Certified SANE-Ps

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- Rural Grant Partnership Update
 - The Rural Grant covers Adams, Brown, Hancock, McDonough, and Schuyler counties.
 - The Office entered into a strategic partnership with Frontline Forensics (FF) to provide 24/7 SANE coverage in these counties by the fall.

V. Legislative Update

- Sarah Beuning, ICASA
 - HB 1739
 - Enhancements to Crime Victims' Rights, including enhancement of a right to notice and a hearing if confidential information is requested without consent of the victim. Applies to privileged rape crisis information, will also apply to medical information.
 - 1-year extension of requirement for a QMP to provide medical forensic services to January 1, 2023
 - 6-month extension for Federally Qualified Health Centers to provide medical forensic services to December 31, 2021.
 - Removes sunset allowing transfer of adults to closest Treatment Hospital with Approved Pediatric Transfer Hospital
 - Requires hospitals and health care providers to provide information about the ISP Kit tracking system
 - Pending Governor's signature
 - HB 3265 - In response to litigation in Cook County regarding the definition of rape crisis organizations for the purpose of rape crisis privilege.
 - HB 3223 – Ensuring Success in Schools requires more resources and responsive measures to sexual assault survivors in K-12 schools
 - SB 818 - Keeping Youth Safe and Healthy Act, provides for medically accurate, age appropriate, inclusive sex education in schools.
 - SB 1610 – Student-led initial that requires a campus sexual misconduct survey every year.
- Brenda Danosky, ISP
 - SB 920
 - On 8/16/2019, the Governor signed Executive Order 2019-13 establishing a forensic task force on forensic science. Issued a report to the Governor for review, available of ISP's website (Governor's Task Force on Forensic Sciences Report.
 - As a result, SB 920 was introduced to require a forensic science commission to be established.

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- Jaclyn Rodriguez, OAG
 - SR 58 established a Child Abuse Task Force to investigate, assess, and make recommendations on the Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment ACT and its implementation to ensure that child development and children's unique medical needs are addressed in the medical response to child sexual abuse.
 - HB 3317 establishes the Domestic Violence Task Force to establish a consistent, uniform statewide system to protect victims and survivors of domestic violence, while holding offenders accountable.
 - SB 685 establishes the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Act and creates the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission.

VI. Department of Healthcare and Family Services Update

- Provided by Lisa Cockrell, new administrator for the Sexual Assault Program for DHFS.
- DHFS is in the process of revising the sexual assault voucher to be more patient friendly. Will be using the acronym ISAETP (Illinois sexual assault emergency treatment program). ISAETP will be defined in the first paragraph, but “sexual assault” will not be spelled out anywhere else on the form.

VII. Illinois State Police Update

- Provided by Brenda Danosky.
- Checkpoint went live August 14, 2020. While there has been a lot of success, there are still hurdles to overcome, including getting hospitals and healthcare to utilize the system at the time of collection and enter the information in a timely manner.
- New email address for system: isp.checkpoint@illinois.gov
- Created quick reference guides for law enforcement and healthcare providers and an explanatory video for survivors in checkpoint and on the ISP website.
- Effective 2016, ISP issues quarterly laboratory statistics available on ISP's website.
- Laboratory backlog statistics also available on ISP's website. The laboratory biology backlog and the average turnaround time for all cases has significantly decreased.

VIII. Committee Reports

- Due to network breach, the list of committee members need to be recreated. Please email jaclyn.rodriquez@ilag.gov with any committees you would like to participate on. Committee membership is open to Task Force members and members of the public.

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- Areawide Treatment Plan Committee: No update
 - Urban Areawide Subcommittee:
 - Have met to discuss potential numbers of pediatric patients that could become transfers to Treatment Hospitals accepting pediatric patients.
 - Updated data sent to Rush, Loyola, and U of C Comer's regarding potential to increase pediatric transfers as they consider accepting pediatric transfers from other facilities.
 - Rural Areawide Subcommittee:
 - Will be following same process the Urban Areawide Subcommittee used in initiating discussions with hospitals.
 - The first step is to pull data for the different regions.
 - Out-of-State Areawide Subcommittee:
 - Data collection initiated with Out-of-State Hospitals for first quarter
- Cost of Care:
 - Dr. Monika Pitzele discussed SB 969, an initiative of Illinois College of Emergency Physicians, which would have increased reimbursement for pediatric medical forensic services to \$500 and reimbursement for adult medical forensic services to \$750.
 - Sponsored by Sen. Morrison. Did not pass, no particular opposition, it was an issue of priorities. Will be reintroduced in January 2021.
 - Senator Morrison recommend created an expansive coalition of supporters and contacting legislators representing safety-net hospitals.
- On-call SANE/SAFE:
 - The Guide is available on the Attorney General's website under helping crime victims, medical forensic services implementation task force. We are open to any feedback from facilities that have been using the Guide, particularly regarding any assistance the Task Force could provide with implementing the recommendations.
- Telehealth:
 - Lisa Mathey has volunteer to Chair the Telehealth committee.
 - Lisa will send out a Doodle poll for scheduling the first meeting.
 - Will be reviewing a statewide needs assessment that has been sent out to hospitals.
 - Email to Lisa and Jaclyn to participate on the committee
- Nursing School Curriculum: No update

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IX. Task Force Members Announcements and Concerns

- Sarah Beuning inquired about approved Transfer Agreements that are longer than expected distance wise and any efforts to minimize the transfer time for victims. Katie Gossett indicated that Southern Illinois Healthcare is working on accepting transfers in Carbondale. She anticipates starting with trial hospitals in September.
- Dr. Monica Pitzele inquired if telemedicine can be used as a backup for hospitals, such as having a qualified medical provider guiding a non-QMP to complete medical forensic services via telemedicine. This would not meet the QMP requirement in SASETA that requires a QMP to provide the services in person.
- Dr. Monica Pitzele inquired if SAFE requirements have been finalized. The administrative rules regarding the SAFE requirements have just been published for public comment.
- Amy Barry inquired about the status of the MEDS program and if there are any similar programs in the state. Jaclyn provided that MEDS is now providing 24/7 adult SANE services for at least 18 hospitals. Have 3 part-time coordinators and about 20 on-call SANEs. Local hospitals and rape crisis centers have provided feedback that the services for survivors has been phenomenal. MEDS is working on expanding to pediatrics. Frontline Forensics is the only other known entity that is providing on-call SANE service.

X. Public Comment

- If a patient declines a transfer to a Treatment Hospital, can they ever receive a voucher? Only patients who present to a Treatment Hospital can receive a voucher
- Are patients billed for STI testing at a Transfer Hospitals? Transfer Hospitals can bill private insurance or Medicaid for the testing, the patient themselves cannot be billed for the testing.
- When will SAFE training be offered for healthcare providers? There is not a plan to offer a separate SAFE training. The law requires that SAFEs obtain training that meets or is substantially similar to the IAFN Education Guidelines. Physicians and physician assistance are encouraged to take the 40-hour SANE training as that training meets the IAFN Education Guidelines.
- Regarding telemedicine, can the Task Force recommend statutory changes? Any Task Force committee work can result in recommendation for legislation and administrative rule changes.
- How can physicians, such as emergency pediatricians show they already meet the requirements for SAFE?
- Has the extension of the QMP requirement become law? No, SB 1739 is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

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- Will it ever be mandatory that a rape crisis advocate be called by a Transfer Hospital? Administrative rules current require that a Transfer Hospital “shall offer to call a friend, family members, or advocate to accompany the patient.” Discussed identifying the appropriate Task Force committee to examine this issue further.
- What about clinical requirements for SAFEs as they have existing experience? This issue was discussed in February. Task Force members felt that the clinical requirements of SAFEs should remain the same or similar to SANE requirements. Once the Administrative Rules are approved, documents with those clinical requirements will be created and distributed.
- How does someone become a Task Force member? SASETA identifies what entity appoints Task Force members. There are two current vacancies, a member of the House of Representatives and a member representing state’s attorneys.

XI. 2021 Task Force Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, August 18, 2021, 1:00pm – 3:30pm
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 1:00pm – 3:30pm

XII. Adjournment

- Amy Barry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Christy Alexander seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:47pm.

Attendance and Votes

	Attendance Present	Attendance Absent	Adjournment
Amy Barry	X		Approve
Ann Adlington	X		Approve
Arvind Goyal, MD		X	
Brenda Beshears		X	
Brenda Danosky	X		Approve
Channing Petrak, MD	X		Approve
Christy Alexander	X		Approve
Debra Perry	X		Approve
Emily Sifferman, MD		X	
Eva Hopp	X		Approve
Heather Keirnan	X		Approve
Jaclyn Rodriguez	X		Approve
Jessica O’Leary		X	
Joseph Burton, MD	X		Approve
Julie Morrison, Senator		X	
Karen Senger	X		Approve

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Kim Mangiaracino		X	
Lisa Mathey	X		Approve
Marites Gonzaga Reardon	X		Approve
Monika Pitzele, MD	X		Approve
Nancee Brown	X		Approve
Robyn Gabel, Representative		X	
Sarah Beuning	X		Approve
Scott Cooper, MD	X		
Sue Rezin, Senator		X	