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**ILLINOIS CHAPTER, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS (ICAAP)
COMMITTEE ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT (COCD)**

**Chicago, IL
December 5, 2012**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ann Cutler, MD, FAAP, COCD Co-Chairperson
Dana Brazdziunas, MD, FAAP, COCD Co-Chairperson
Sarah C. Bauer, MD
Loretta Lattyak, RN
Janet Patterson, MD

STAFF PRESENT:

Rachel Sacks, MPH, Manager, Early Childhood Development

MEMBERS ON PHONE:

Lauren Boyd, MD

STAFF ON PHONE:

Scott Allen, MS, Executive Director
Lisa Justen, Project Coordinator, Early Childhood Development

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Sacks, Dr. Cutler, and Dr. Brazdziunas called the meeting to order. All present and on phone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the committee's October 10, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

ICAAP EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Ms. Sacks highlighted some recent ICAAP Early Childhood Development activities.

2012 ABC Conference

The 3rd Annual ABC Conference, "A Trauma-Informed Approach to Caring for Children and Families with Complex Needs," was held on November 16, 2012 at Advocate Lutheran General in Park Ridge. There were a total of 120 attendees, including medical residents, and received very positive evaluations from those who attended. Committee members that attended the ABC Conference shared their thoughts about the success of the conference. Dr. Cutler indicated that Dr. Larry Desch had offered Christ Hospital as a possible venue for next year, and suggested that Dr. Desch might also be able to serve as the ABC conference chairperson.

Home Visiting Project

Ms. Sacks reported that ICAAP is now engaged in a Home Visiting project as part of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV). ICAAP will be providing training and

resources on care coordination with the primary care medical home to home visitors. Dr. Patterson expressed interest in assisting with the project.

Child Care Committee and Grant

Ms. Sacks informed the committee that ICAAP has just received a second small grant that focuses on the child care and early education community. The new child care grant is entitled Building Bridges Among Health and Early Childhood Systems through Development and Implementation of State and EBCD Initiatives. Ms. Sacks explained that this grant differed from the previous child care grant in that rather than deliver training on medication administration to child care providers, it will allow ICAAP to promote existing developmental screening and care coordination trainings on the EDOPC website to the child care community.

Additionally, Ms. Sacks informed the committee that there is a Committee on Child Care teleconference to be held on December 13, 2012 to discuss the goals of the committee and introduce the committee's chairperson, Dr. Marealita Pierce. Ms. Sacks encouraged interested members to attend the conference call or invite others to join the call or committee.

GOALS AND BUSINESS

Members and staff discussed current goals, and efforts and activities to achieve these goals.

Illinois Medicaid drug formulary for psychiatric medications

Mr. Allen reported on the status of ICAAP's efforts to have Medicaid reconsider its changes to the formulary for psychiatric medications. He began by thanking the committee for providing their feedback on which specific medications should be added back in (Focalin XR, Adderal XR, and Concerta, in that order). Mr. Allen informed the committee that he will be meeting with new MCH Bureau Chief Kim Wagenaar on Monday, December 10, 2012 to discuss this matter. He stated that Medicaid is open to adding one long-acting medication, but he is optimistic that two can be added, especially given that an individual child would not be on two such medications.

Dr. Brazdziunas also expressed concern that she does not find out when and why prior authorization requests are rejected. She stated that the physicians cannot acquire information on the review process or the rejection determination. Dr. Bauer agreed and said she has received rejection letters in the past, but they arrive six weeks later. Mr. Allen said that he would look into it and also requested that committee members share their stories with him via email before his meeting so he could include their accounts.

ACTION: Committee members will share stories and anecdotes with Mr. Allen in order to strengthen his conversations with Medicaid,

ACTION: Mr. Allen will request information from Medicaid regarding the frequency of extra visits due to the need to change medications and dosing and/or seek prior authorization

ACTION: Mr. Allen will invite the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) and Health and Disability Advocates (HDA) to sign on with ICAAP's formal request to Medicaid.

Private insurance drug coverage for psychiatric medications

Prior to the meeting, Dr. Larry Desch had brought to the committee's attention that Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) is putting restrictions on the number of capsules of stimulants that a child can be on (Dr. Brazdziunas brought in a copy of her BCBS letter stating this). Although committee members expressed concerns about BCBS putting this restriction on providers, several noted that it would affect only a very

small number of their patients and that the approval process was simple. Committee members also reported experiencing other prescription challenges with other private insurers. Dr. Bauer had issues with United Health Care when trying to prescribe two weeks of medication for dosing purposes. Dr. Boyd reported that a pharmacy had suggested she write a letter when prescribing a second medication for the same child explaining why it is being used to prevent insurance company rejections before they occur.

The committee determined that private insurance prescription coverage policy is currently less of a concern than the Medicaid formulary issue, and that in fact some of these protocols might be an appropriate medication overutilization control. The committee will monitor this issue but will not yet take action.

EI medical diagnostic protocol

Dr. Brazdziunas informed the committee that the STAT and ADOS2 training is done and that several centers participated. In addition, she reported that she requested a meeting with Early Intervention about medical diagnostics Ms. Sacks requested to be kept informed about any upcoming meetings the committee chairs intended to hold with EI.

Drs. Brazdziunas and Cutler also brought up the fact that the State has been losing a great deal of money on the EI program due to a loophole that allows families with insurance to opt out of using their insurance for EI. Typically, EI will bill the family's insurance, if they have insurance, for therapy until their maximum benefit, at which point EI will take over paying. Dr. Boyd clarified, based on her knowledge as a parent with a child in EI, that the EI fee structure also includes a family fee up to \$200 per month depending on income. If at the end of the year, the cost of the services rendered is less than the family fee, the family will be reimbursed for the difference. Dr. Boyd pointed out that this is why a family might choose to bill their insurance, or they might not, depending on what they think is best.

According to Dr. Cutler, EI director Amy Tarr indicated legislation was being crafted to close the loophole, therefore cutting down on costs for the State. Dr. Patterson wondered if center-based care would also contribute to reduced costs for EI. Ms. Lattyak also noted that every home-based provider or therapist needs to show that they can provide secure medical records and needs to have EMR by 2014, and that this will be a challenge for many.

EI policy on medical recommendations

Dr. Brazdziunas and Ms. Lattyak expressed concern that the auditor from Early Intervention indicated at a recent audit that medical diagnostic teams are not to make any, even very general recommendations to EI. Ms. Lattyak asked if there is new language in the draft CFC manual within the medical diagnosis section and Ms. Sacks will compare the current and draft CFC manuals to confirm whether any changes have been proposed of relevance. Ms. Sacks also requested that Dr. Brazdziunas and her team provide relevant language from their audit or other written feedback from EI to ICAAP staff to document what exactly EI indicated physicians may or may not do.

ACTION: Ms. Sacks will compare the Diagnostic/Evaluation for EI section in current CFC manual to the draft of CFC manual.

ACTION: Dr. Brazdziunas and her team will provide Ms. Sacks relevant language from their audit or other written feedback from EI.

LEND AND ACT EARLY UPDATES

Dr. Cutler had no report on LEND or Act Early.

NEXT STEPS AND SCHEDULE FOR 2013

Ms. Sacks asked the committee members if the meeting dates and times still worked well for the members. The committee discussed having a joint meeting with the Committee on Children with Disabilities (COCWD). Committee members expressed the desire to have meetings planned at least six months in advanced and Ms. Sacks agreed to schedule all the meetings for the first half of 2013 by early in the new year. Dr. Cutler also suggested that the co-chair position be opened up to other individuals at the beginning of FY14.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER UPDATES

Ms. Sacks announced that Reach Out and Read has just launched the Friends Board. Anyone wishing to join should “Like” Reach Out and Read Illinois on Facebook and take a brief [survey](#) indicating how they would like to be involved. Reach Out and Read is also accepting end of year contributions, and anyone wishing to donate should visit the ICAAP or Reach Out and Read websites.

Ms. Sacks also informed the committee that EDOPC is doing a survey on the effectiveness and ease of use of their website and web-based courses. Committee members that have used the website should feel free to complete the [survey](#).

Ms. Sacks reminded the committee that the Committee on Child Care call is on Thursday, December 13, 2013 beginning at 12:00 noon.

Ms. Sacks also announced that ICAAP’s Annual Conference is scheduled for May 17-18, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next COCD meeting will be scheduled for early 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Sacks, MPH
Manager, Early Childhood Development