



About the OHPC

The Commission identifies and analyzes significant health care issues affecting the state and makes policy recommendations to the Governor, the Oregon State Legislature and the state Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research (OHPR). Additionally, the Commission partners with health care experts and stakeholders around the state to develop projects focused on improving Oregonians' health status and access to effective and efficient health care services.

OHPC Mission

The OHPC seeks to develop and promote public policy to improve the health of all Oregonians by:

- ensuring access to essential health care and support services,
- improving health care quality and outcomes,
- controlling costs,
- encouraging healthy lifestyles.

For more information about the OHPC, please contact Gretchen Morley or Jessica van Diepen at (503) 378-2422 or visit us online at <http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OHPPR>.

Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research
255 Capitol St NE,
5th Floor, Salem, Oregon

Coming Together

Convening Oregon's Health Care Reformers

Everyone is talking about improving access to health care and "fixing the system". Are you wondering who is doing what? Please join us February 16 at 1:00 p.m. at the Governor Hotel's Grand Ballroom to hear a round table discussion of what our health care leaders are doing to increase Oregonians' access to care. Included among the participants will be representatives from the following:

- Archimedes Movement
- CodeBlueNow!
- Community-created 100% Access Projects
- Foundation for the Advancement of Community Health Care
- Health Care for All - Oregon
- Northwest Health Foundation
- Oregon Business Council
- Oregon Health Action Campaign
- Oregonians for Health Security
- 2nd Annual Oregon Health Care Summit

Work in Progress

Where we are and where we're headed

Reforming the system: How we get there from here.

In the upcoming year, the Commission will continue to explore, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on promising changes to make health care more affordable and accessible.

On February 8th, the Commission received very specific direction on this work from Governor Kulongoski. The Governor has directed the OHPC to develop recommendations for establishing a system of affordable healthcare that is accessible to everyone. The recommendations are to set manageable goals for system change over the next five years and propose concrete reforms to advance the healthcare system toward those goals.

The Governor has asked the Commission for its intended work plan by the end of March. The Commission will solicit advice and input from health care experts and stakeholder groups in the development of these recommendations.

Meetings Calendar:

- February 13**
Quality & Transparency Workgroup
- February 16**
OHPC – Convening Reformers
- February 21**
Delivery System Models Subcommittee
- February 27**
Childhood Obesity Study

Resources:

In the News

Commissioners and Staff:

Kerry Barnett, Chair
The Regence Group

Jonathan Ater, Vice-Chair
AterWynne, LLP
Attorneys at Law

Vanetta Abdellatif
Multnomah County Health
Department

Geoff Brown
Watson Wyatt Worldwide

Alice Dale
SEIU

Rep. Billy Dalto

Sen. Richard Devlin

Vickie Gates
Consultant

Rep. Mitch Greenlick

Jim Lussier
St. Charles Medical Center

Sen. Ben Westlund

Richard Wopat, MD
Samaritan Health Services

Commission Staff:

Gretchen Morley, Director

Jessica van Diepen,
Assistant

Quality & Transparency Workgroup

The OHPC believes that better public reporting of healthcare quality and cost information will lead to better health care outcomes, enhanced system efficiencies, and better cost control. To this end, the Commission's workgroup on Quality and Transparency worked with the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research to publish the first publicly reported hospital quality information for use by health care providers in July 2005

(www.oregon.gov/DAS/OHPPR/HQ). The workgroup, co-chaired by OHPC commissioners Vickie Gates and Jonathan Ater, is currently finalizing its 2006 work plan which will likely include:

- Refining, updating, and adding to the hospital quality information
- Developing a consumer friendly product from the hospital quality information
- Reaching out to the health care purchasers, consumers, and other parties to encourage the use of available quality information for decision making
- In partnership with hospital representatives, exploring the feasibility of a surgical quality improvement project

Local Delivery System Models Workgroup

Localities around the state are working to align resources and form partnerships to improve access to health care for their communities. Chaired by Commissioners Vanetta Abdellatif and Dr. Rick Wopat, the Commission's Local Delivery System Models Workgroup released a report in January highlighting community-created health care access projects in Oregon. The report is a first step in determining how these community-created access efforts can inform statewide health policy and how the state can effect a positive environment for these innovative efforts. The report was presented to the Commission at the January OHPC meeting by Marian Blankenship, the workgroup's graduate intern, and Laura Brennan of the Department of Human Services, Health Systems Planning. The report can be found at:

(<http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OHPPR/HPC/docs/2006/SurveyofCommunityCreatedHealthcareSolutionsinOregon06.pdf>). The presentation can be found at: http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OHPPR/HPC/docs/2006/survey_slideshow06.pdf

New in 2006

Better Data for Better Policy

State of the Health of Oregon Resource

The OHPC is partnering with State Public Health Officer Susan Allan and the Northwest Health Foundation to develop a dynamic resource on the state of health in Oregon. This study will provide public policymakers, health funders, and public and private health organizations a guide for using limited resources and aligning public policies to best promote a healthy Oregon. This project will build on currently available health data and survey findings. A "key informant" group representing a wide range of expertise is being formed to shape the process and structure of this public resource.

Status : Project managers: Dr. Ann Thomas & Molly Emmons, DHS; David Rebanal, NWHF; Jessica van Diepen, OHPC; Doctoral intern: Chris Palmedo, PSU. Establishing project framework and cataloguing current data and reports.

Strategic Framework for Combating Childhood Obesity

During Oregon's 2005 session, legislators clearly had an interest in what the state could do to combat obesity. However, the conversations lacked a policy framework around which to form a consensus. The Commission is partnering with the Department of Human Services and other experts to develop a comprehensive plan for addressing childhood obesity. This study will be presented to the Legislature and the Governor in advance of the next legislative session so that it can be used as a resource for decision making on the best ways to reduce childhood obesity in the state. The work plan for this study was presented by DHS at the OHPC meeting on January 19.

Status: Research & Science Workgroup will meet February 27 at 1:00 p.m. in the Portland State Office Building Room 123 to review current research. The workgroup roster is being finalized.

Resources

In the News

Joe Rohass-Burke covers health care cost and quality in Oregon, *The Oregonian*, Sunday, January 22, 2006

Patrick O'Neill covers Oregon advocates' child obesity report, *The Oregonian*, Wednesday, February 1, 2006

February Meetings

Quality & Transparency Workgroup – February 13, 2-4 p.m., Portland State Office Building 800 NE Oregon St, Room 120B

Updates

- Health Information Security & Privacy Collaboration (HISPC) Grant Opportunity (Jeanene Smith)
- Cost Transparency Data (Tina Edlund)

Prioritizing Next Steps

- Clinical Databases Subcommittee – Proposed National Surgical Quality Improvement Project (NSQIP) Strategy (Tina Edlund)
- Work plan short-term focus

Work Session – 3-year plan

Potential topics include:

- EHR & systems interconnectivity/data security & privacy
- Analysis & distribution of other quality data sources
- Improve clinical process measurement → improve clinical processes
- Consumer education – patient & payor
- Payment structures to promote quality – P4P, Pay-for-condition, pay-for-capacity, pay-for-case management

Local Delivery System Models Subcommittee – February 21, 1-3 p.m., Portland State Office Bldg 800 NE Oregon St, Room 120B

A subcommittee of the workgroup will meet to develop a proposal for next steps that will be brought back the full workgroup at its March meeting.