



# BETSY LEHMAN CENTER

for Patient Safety and Medical Error Reduction

501 Boylston Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02116  
T 617.701.8271 F 617.889.7857  
E [betsylehmancenter@state.ma.us](mailto:betsylehmancenter@state.ma.us)  
[www. BetsyLehmanCenterMA.gov](http://www.BetsyLehmanCenterMA.gov)

## MINUTES OF THE BETSY LEHMAN CENTER FOR PATIENT SAFETY AND MEDICAL ERROR REDUCTION BOARD

Date of Meeting: Monday, June 25th, 2018

Beginning Time: 3:07 pm

End Time: 4:11pm

### PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Betsy Lehman Center (BLC) Board of Directors was held on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 501 Boylston Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA.

### Board members and designees present:

Lauren Peters (LP), representing Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders

Ray Campbell (RC)

John Chapman (JC)

Sandra Wolitzky (SW), representing Attorney General Maura Healey

**BLC Staff in attendance:** Barbara Fain (BF), M.E. Malone (MEM), Julia Prentice (JP), Lisa Conley (LC), Samantha Bissell (SB)

### Approval of Minutes

BF asked for a motion to approve the February 26, 2018 meeting minutes; motion made by RC, seconded by JC. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

### Overview of FY18 initiatives and highlights:

BF led an overview of various FY18 initiatives and their progress:

- Two articles and an editorial stemming from the Center’s cataract surgery expert panel work were published by a leading journal, Anesthesia and Analgesia, in May, broadening the potential impact of the Center’s work.
- The Massachusetts Sepsis Consortium, a broad group of stakeholders working on a statewide response to growing concerns about sepsis, is continuing to host a series of meetings and sub-panel work.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Barbara Fain

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
Maura Healey  
Attorney General

Marylou Sudders  
Secretary of Health  
and Human Services

John C. Chapman  
Undersecretary  
of Consumer Affairs  
and Business  
Regulation

Ray Campbell  
Executive Director,  
Center for Health  
Information and Analysis

- The expert panel on Improving Safety in Emergency Medicine is working toward developing core safety competencies for MA emergency departments
- Brigham & Women’s Hospital researchers received a planning grant to address diagnostic error (“PRIDE” program); the Center is convening a series of confidential case discussions in support of this research
  - JC asked whether Brigham & Women’s approached the Betsy Lehman Center.
  - BF confirmed that both this and the ED Expert Panel came out of requests to the Center. JC noted that this is encouraging.
- Research:
  - The Center is adapting methodology from a national study using claims data and other sources to estimate an annual cost of medical errors in Massachusetts. The Center’s Research Advisory Committee is helping to steer these efforts.
  - Conducting re-contact survey of Massachusetts consumers who responded to CHIA’s health insurance survey last year and indicated that: (1) they had experienced a medical error in their care, and (2) consented to be re-contacted. This is being done by national survey company SSRS.
    - RC asked whether this type of work had been done before; BF confirmed that it had not and this is new. RC commented that this is cutting-edge work.
    - The Board will receive an outline of the findings in July to review.

**Discussion of upcoming projects and considerations for FY19:**

- The Betsy Lehman Center is planning to support implementation of voluntary peer and patient/family support programs in five Massachusetts hospitals to address the needs of individuals affected by adverse events. This would be a pilot program offered to participants at little or no cost to them.
- For next fiscal year, the Center expects to be level funded. Now that the Center is fully staffed, payroll will comprise the majority of FY19 expenses.
- BF was appointed to the National Advisory Committee (NAC) of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

With no other business to discuss and no executive session needed, a motion was made by RC, seconded by LP and unanimously approved that the meeting adjourns. Meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm.