



## **Mississippi Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention**

Mississippi State Department of Health  
Osborne Building  
Conference Room, O-203  
March 2, 2012

### **Minutes**

Attendees: David Neal Kiihnl, Pam Hargett, Cassandra Dove, Jason Brown, Heather Sistrunk, LaTonya Lott, Augusta Bilbro, Chad Rhoden, Norman Miller, Clay Hays, Sai Kurmana, Katherine Bryant, Dellwyn Sanders, Estelle Watts, Michael Jones, Evelyn Walker, Jacqueline McCoy, Rebecca Suggs, Xavier Johnson

#### **Million Hearts Initiative**

The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program (HDSPP) staff showed a short film about the Million Hearts Initiative. Million Hearts is a national initiative to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes over five years. Million Hearts brings together communities, health systems, nonprofit organizations, federal agencies, and private-sector partners from across the country to fight heart disease and stroke. Million Hearts also brings together existing efforts and new programs to improve health across communities and help Americans live longer, healthier, more productive lives. Million Hearts aims to prevent heart disease and stroke by:

1. Improving access to effective care.
2. Improving the quality of care for the ABCS.
3. Focusing clinical attention on the prevention of heart attack and stroke.
4. Activating the public to lead a heart-healthy lifestyle.
5. Improving the prescription and adherence to appropriate medications for the ABCS.

Mississippi Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention will endorse the Million Hearts Initiative by setting a goal to prevent 10,000 heart attacks over a five year span in Mississippi. The task force plans to accomplish this goal with the continued efforts of developing fact sheets, continue using the Mississippi State Plan, promoting the Mississippi Hypertension Specialist Initiative, creating awareness pieces and endorsing smoke free policies.

#### **Mississippi Hypertension Specialist Initiative**

In collaboration with American Society of Hypertension (ASH) the HDSPP sponsored the Mississippi Hypertension Specialist Initiative. The Mississippi Hypertension Specialist Initiative is a unique, population-based quality improvement initiative geared toward improving

cardiovascular health outcomes of Mississippians. Eligible Mississippi physicians were afforded the opportunity to take the Hypertension Specialist Exam, receive free CME credits, and participate in the nationally recognized ASH Hypertension Registry Initiative. Participating physicians may attend a two-day Clinical Hypertension Review Session to prepare for the exam.

The goals of the Initiative are to:

1. Increase physicians' knowledge and skills in managing complex and treatment-resistant hypertension.
2. Increase the number of designated hypertension specialists in Mississippi. Hypertension specialists are recognized physicians with expert skills and knowledge in managing clinical hypertension.
3. Increase the utilization of the American Society of Hypertension's (ASH) Hypertension Registry in Mississippi.
4. Improve clinical outcomes in patients with hypertension.

### **Overview of Heart Disease and Stroke in Mississippi**

LaTonya Lott, the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Epidemiologist provided a data report on the mortality rate, prevalence, and risks factors for heart disease and stroke. Fortunately, heart disease and stroke are largely preventable! By adopting healthy diets, increasing physical activity, eliminating tobacco use, and controlling weight, blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes Mississippians can reduce the likelihood of developing heart disease and/or stroke.

### **STEMI Care Plan**

Heather Sistrunk gave an update on the STEMI Care Plan. The Mississippi Healthcare Alliance (MHCA) and the Mississippi State Department of Health implemented the new statewide STEMI Care Plan February 2012 . The STEMI Care Plan facilitates the immediate diagnoses of STEMI events, identifies PCI and non-PCI facilities in the state, and established protocol for rapid transfer of patients to PCI facilities, which in turn will ensure better outcomes for patients. Currently, only 26 percent of acute care hospitals in the county are PCI-capable. Mississippi is the second in the nation behind North Carolina to implement a specific plan to respond to cardiovascular emergencies.

### **Action Items:**

1. Cassandra Dove, Chronic Disease Bureau Director with the Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative will provide task force members with the data collected by Congregational Health Nurse Program on patients screened for glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol.
2. LaTonya Lott, Epidemiologist will provide a projection of how the Million Hearts in Mississippi number may appear by 2017.
3. Invite Dr. Michael Mansour, Greenville Cardiologist to the next task force meeting.