

STATE OF MARYLAND
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Research and Methodology

HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION

4160 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Phone: 410-764-2605 · Fax: 410-358-6217

Toll Free: 1-888-287-3229

www.hsrcr.state.md.us

Hospital Race and Ethnicity Disparities Work Group

(Updated June 6, 2012)

The Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Reduction Act of 2012 created by [HB 439](#) and [SB 234](#) requires the Maryland Health Care Commission and Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) to:

- Study the feasibility of including racial and ethnic performance data tracking in quality incentive programs
- Report to the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2013, data by race and ethnicity in quality incentive programs where feasible
- Submit a report on or before January 1, 2013, to the Governor and in accordance with §2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly that explains when data cannot be reported by race and ethnicity and describes necessary changes to overcome those limitations.

HSCRC staff are convening three *Hospital Race and Ethnicity Disparities Work Group* meetings from June to December of 2012 to meet the requirements of the legislation and review the recommendations from the *Maryland Health Disparities Collaborative Workgroups*, established by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

The *Hospital Race and Ethnicity Disparities Work Group* comprises a broad array of member stakeholders including: hospital industry representatives with expertise in clinical quality, case mix/coding, and access/admission procedures and data collection; staff from several state health agencies working to improve disparities issues in Maryland healthcare; and healthcare disparities experts from academic, research, payer and improvement organizations.

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Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Associate Professor
Deputy Director, Center for Health Disparities Solutions

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DHMH, Vital Statistics Administration, Director, Division of Health Statistics

Karen L. Jerome, MD
Holy Cross Hospital, Physician Advisor, Quality and Care Management

David Mann, M.D., Ph.D., Epidemiologist (INVITED)
Maryland DHMH Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities

Theresa Lee
Maryland Health Care Commission, Chief, Hospital Quality Initiatives

Marcos Pesquera
Adventist Healthcare, Executive Director, Center on Health Disparities

Nicole Dempsey Stallings
Maryland Hospital Association, Assistant Vice President, Quality Policy & Advocacy

Heath Services Cost Review Commission Staff

Sule Calikoglu, PhD
Associate Director, Performance Measurement

Dianne Feeney
Associate Director, Quality Initiatives (Disparities Project Coordinator)

Amanda Greene
Community Benefits Program Manager, Audit and Compliance

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Principal Deputy Director