

**EPIDEMIOLOGY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Notes from meeting held 1 July 2005**

Meeting held:	Miramar Golf Links, Wellington Airport
In Attendance:	Denise Hutchins (DH) Chair; Cynthia Farquhar (CF); Sharon Kletchko (SK); Robin Youngson (RY); Nigel Dickson (ND)
Apologies	Barbara Greer (BG); Jonathan Jarman (JJ), Barry Taylor (BT), Jim Vause (JV)
MoH attendees:	Gillian Bohm (GB)
Secretariat:	Angie Perry (AP)


Summary notes of discussion

Meeting Commenced	9:30 am
1. Welcome	
2. Apologies	Quorum not reached, two apologies received close to the meeting date due to unforeseeable circumstances. Meeting continued for discussion purposes.
3. Confirmation of minutes	Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting, however there were no corrections from the attending committee members.
4. Chairs report	<p>DH updated the group on</p> <p><i>a) Progress with the annual report.</i> There had been some discussion within the Ministry of Health over the use of the adapted Ministry of Health Statement of Intent diagram. Use of the diagram in the annual report would have required some significant changes to the text and modification of the diagram itself. Decision made to remove diagram and replace it with the Improving Quality 'conch shell' diagram due to time constraints. Although DH accepted this option, she ensured the Ministry were aware of the disappointment of the committee that it could not be included, as it was important for the sector to see how EpiQual connects with the overall framework.</p> <p><i>b) Safe and Quality Use of Medicines</i> The draft of the Safe and Quality Use of Medicines Strategy document was sent to DH. GB explained that the group proposed becoming a sub-committee of EpiQual, however in recent meetings it was suggested that the direct reference to EpiQual be removed.</p> <p><i>c) Contact from Heather-Ann Moodie (HM)</i> HM contacted DH to further discuss peri-operative review. A group has come together, with support and involvement from the Colleges of Surgeons, Anaesthetists and Obstetrics and Gynaecology, to investigate forming a peri-operative review committee. HM would like to attend EpiQual to discuss.</p>

	<p>d) <i>Health Innovation Awards</i> DH attended the Health Innovation Awards the previous evening. DH said it was a great event showcasing many wonderful projects, with a good mix from primary and tertiary care. The winner was the Healthy Housing Programme, a joint collaboration between Counties Manukau District Health Board, Housing New Zealand Corporation, Auckland Regional Public Health, Auckland District Health Board and Northland District Health Board.</p> <p>e) <i>Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (PMMRC)</i> DH advised that the PMMRC has been established and congratulated CF on being appointed as Chair of this committee.</p>
<p>5. Matters arising from the minutes</p>	<p>a) <i>Service Level Agreement</i> The service level agreement is currently with Andrew Holmes (AH) for signature. AH was awaiting the work programme before signing the agreement. Secretariat to follow this up with AH when he returns from leave.</p> <p>b) <i>Annual Report</i> The health report with a pre-published copy of the annual report went to the Minister on 27 June. Currently awaiting return of the health report. Once this has occurred, the report will be published. Suggestions given to AP as to who should be included on the distribution list.</p>
<p>6. Correspondence</p>	<p><i>Inward</i> – Letter from Safe and Quality Use of Medicines (content discussed above in Chair's report).</p> <p><i>Outward</i> – letter sent to 'responsible persons' requesting feedback on the proposed protected quality assurance reporting template.</p>
<p>7. Review of Decades of Disparity 2: Socioeconomic mortality trends in New Zealand, 1981-1999</p>	<p>SK advised that the section of greatest importance was Chapter 14 (Discussion). The overall findings showed that the absolute socioeconomic inequalities in mortality were stable over the time period, whereas relative inequality increased. The relative inequalities in the 25-77 year age band increased more using income as a measure of socioeconomic position than education. SK commented it appeared that education was a factor for younger people, whereas income was a factor for older.</p> <p>SK advised that this report needed to be taken into account when looking at quality.</p> <p>Other useful aspect of the report is the typology of trends (pg 107). SK identified that types 4^a, 5^a, 5^b and 5^c need to be addressed. Comment that 'healthy at 70' will not be achieved if all cause mortality in the 25-44 age group is not addressed.</p> <p>Discussion over the cancer information. The group identified that EpiQual should be linking with the Cancer Control Council and requested that the Council receive a copy of the EpiQual annual</p>

	<p>report.</p> <p>SK commented that the invited commentary inserts in the Discussion section are worth reading and suggested that the authors of these sections could be invited to EpiQual in future.</p> <p>Consensus that this document should inform the work that EpiQual is doing (Eg: chartbook). Discussion over whether there was any specific advice that EpiQual could give the Minister regarding this report. Discussion included the need to shift the focus from an access/equity lens to a quality lens.</p> <p>RY queried where do we fit in healthy communities? DH commented that the first prizewinner of the Innovation Awards was an example of this – a collaborative initiative for enabling healthier communities.</p> <p>Consensus that high level advice should be given to the Minister regarding Decades of Disparity 2, with the key points;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EpiQual have considered the document and see it contains a large amount of valuable information that should inform the sector • Highlighting importance of moving the focus to a quality lens • Recognition of the value of the tools being introduced and the typology of trends. <p>Discussion over taking the document and engaging the sector in exploring the document and its value. Consensus that this would be a good mechanism to engage the sector.</p> <p>The group requested that the Secretariat draft the advice and invite Tony Blakely (co-author of Decades of Disparity) to the next EpiQual meeting.</p>
<p>8. Work Programme</p>	<p>GB explained the work programme was formulated based on the information in the annual report and on discussions at the April planning meeting.</p> <p>GB raised concerns that data, evidence and knowledge should not be split in the Venn diagram as this was not in line with the current literature on 'knowledge'. The group considered what meaning was trying to be represented with the 'Knowledge' circle. 'Judgement' was considered an appropriate term to replace knowledge. Further discussion resulted in the graphical representation of the framework being changed from a Venn to a conch shell. SK offered to draft the new diagram.</p> <p>The heading for the chartbook was discussed and changed to 'A measure of population outcomes attributable to health care and disability support interventions'.</p>

9. Chartbook	<p>The indicators provided by PHI at the April planning days were reviewed with discussion over which indicators should/should not be included.</p> <p>Secretariat to ask PHI about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of a measure of avoidable cancer death • Whether the next health survey will include a blood sugar level.
10. Sector Engagement	<p>Future consideration needs to be given to this project, such as: What level do we want to educate? What do we want to achieve? How do we promote leadership and learning?</p> <p>To consider at the next meeting when Tony Blakely is present.</p>
11. HPCA (PQAA)	<p>DH highlighted the EpiQual need to be clear that the committee is not taking over the administrative process of reporting.</p> <p>A letter from EpiQual was sent out on 22 June 2005 requesting feedback on the draft reporting template. Comment is due back on 22 July 2005. Secretariat to compile responses and bring them to the next meeting for consideration.</p>
12. Mortality Review and Sentinel Events	<p>To review the CYMRC annual report and discuss adult mortality review at the next EpiQual meeting.</p>
13. Updating IQ Action plan	<p>GB identified that the second action plan needs to be clearer, more focussed (ie: fewer actions) and visionary. Discussion over what EpiQual will propose to the sector. Suggestion to take the ten key areas of the action plan and pose a set of questions to the sector for each. This will allow EpiQual to gather information from the sector in a structured way.</p> <p>Following feedback on the questions, focus groups could be held, then action plan developed.</p> <p>As a first step, committee members were asked to prepare one question under each of the ten areas to bring to the next meeting. Secretariat to send a template to committee members to facilitate this.</p>
Meeting closed	2:10pm

Notes confirmed	<p>Signature: </p> <p>Date: 12. August . 2005</p>
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