

# Appendix #4

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY - UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEDICAL CENTER

## QUALITY ASSURANCE AD HOC COMMITTEE

### HOSPICE/PAIN CONTROL

August 23, 1985

### Minutes of Meeting

#### Present

Dave Baron, M.D.	Asst. Professor of Psychiatry
David Cundiff, M.D.	Physician Specialist
Linda Ventura, MSW	MSW Director
Robyn Herman, R.N.	Nurse Manager
Roger Jelliffe, M.D.	Clinical Pharmacology
Doreen Young, R.N.	Home Care
Kathy Lohr, R.N.	Q.A. Committee Coordinator
Peter Heseltine, M.D.	Q.A. Committee Chairman
Thomas Boylen, M.D., Chairman	Chest Medicine

#### Discussion:

Dr. Boylen opened the meeting by asking the members to review the document entitled "Los Angeles County Hospitals, Hospice Efforts, Current Status, July 1985." It was noted that our report from LAC-USC was not included. However, no one seemed to know the reason.

Martin Luther King Hospital submitted the guidelines for the use of "I Can Cope" kit. Linda Ventura pointed out that this kit is used for patients who recover and the stresses they go through. It is not geared towards the terminally ill patients. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the educational need of the medical staff for pain control. It was felt that it would take at least two years to realize the full effect of an educational program. Medical students need to have pain control management incorporated into their curriculum as well as a need for ongoing education. Drs. Boylen and Heseltine indicated that they would approach Dr. Bethune about having 6th and 8th floor conferences on pain control. They will also request that a Grand Rounds Conference be dedicated to such. There was discussion about having the terminally ill patients housed on a specific ward. However, it was felt that this was impossible and would not be accepted, even though it would be easier to monitor patients if they were grouped together. It was the committee's feeling that boarding patients on various wards causes patients not to get the full attention they need. It was suggested that a nursing quality assurance group develop a set of guidelines for pain control and that they become involved in this monitoring. It was felt that nursing could assist new house staff in terms of how these patients could be managed.

The committee indicated that the first goal should be to make people realize that there is a problem with pain management. Although the committee's original recommendation for a pain consultation service was rejected, it was felt that there would be an advantage to having such a resource. The ideal, of course, would be to have a Hospice

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Also mentioned was that at future meetings there should be representatives from the departments mentioned in Dr Bernstein's letter to Dr. Indenbaum which are: Anesthesia, Neurosurgery, Psychosomatic and Psychiatric Service, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Radiology, Neurology, Nursing, and Discharge Coordinators. It was recommended we continue these meetings for at least six months to launch our program and then perhaps quarterly thereafter.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding what VNA services have to offer.

Kathy Lohr discussed the recommendations made at the May 13, 1985, Quality Assurance Committee meeting and indicated that a letter was sent to Dr. Marge McCarron with a recommendation that a drug bulletin be dedicated to pain control. Dr. Heseltine indicated that Dr. McCarron has requested someone to assist in writing this drug bulletin. Dr. Cundiff volunteered and will contact her directly. Also, a letter was sent to the departmental chiefs recommending that within the next three months they dedicate one conference to pain control and provide the Quality Assurance Committee with a percentage of members who attended. There has been no response as yet. It was suggested that another letter be sent out indicating that Dr. Cundiff would be available as a resource person.

Another possibility was the consideration of a postgraduate program on pain control such as an eight-hour seminar. Dr. Boylen will discuss the feasibility of this with Dr. Manning. Dr. Baron questioned if funds from the Kellogg Foundation were available for projects concerning pain control. This too will be addressed to Dr. Manning by Dr. Boylen.

### Action

Dr. Cundiff will work with Dr. McCarron in writing a drug bulletin dedicated to pain control. He will list himself as a resource person for pain consultation in this bulletin.

Doreen Young and Linda Ventura will gather resource information regarding hospice and pain control in the community.

Drs. Boylen and Heseltine will meet with Drs. John Bethune and Phil Manning regarding educational conferences.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, September 27, 1985, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 11-321 with the expanded membership invited. Thereafter monthly meetings will be held on the last Friday of the month at the same time and place.