



**In-Person Meeting Summary
January 22-23
CSTE Office, Atlanta, GA**

** The meeting packet and other meeting materials are located on [Basecamp](#) under ('Docs& Files' -> 'Meetings and Calls' -> 'January 2020 In-Person Meeting'). Detailed notes from the HLG sessions will be posted once available.*

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Welcome and Introductions

CORHA Governance Committee (GC) Co-Chairs, Gerd Clabaugh and Erin Epton opened the meeting with welcome remarks and followed with introductions by meeting participants. A list of meeting participants is available on Basecamp under ('Docs& Files' -> 'Meetings and Calls' -> 'January 2020 In-Person Meeting'). Next, Council updates were provided as follows:

Strategic Update

Governance Committee Co-Chairs

- The GC Co-Chairs provided a refresher on the Strategic Map update that occurred at the June 2019 CORHA meeting. Laurie Schulte with the Clarion Group facilitated discussions that led to the real-time updating of the 2020-2022 [CORHA Strategic Map](#).
- Following the Strategic Map update, Laurie held conference calls with the CORHA GC and staff to initiate planning for Phase 2 of the strategic update, which outlines plans for effective implementation of the updated Strategic Map.
- The Governance Committee met with Laurie Schulte on January 13, 2020 to discuss implementation priorities and metrics for Priority D of the Strategic Map.

Detection and Reporting "Workgroup A"

Linda Greene

- The workgroup is finalizing the Group A Strep product, which is currently being reviewed by a subject-matter expert (SME). The completed product will be shared with workgroup B to ensure alignment between both workgroups.
- The CDI product has also been completed and is pending review by workgroup B to ensure alignment with the CDI product developed by workgroup B.
- Other products in development include *Medical Product Detection and Reporting Triggers*, led by Isaac Benowitz and an Influenza product in collaboration with workgroup B.

Investigation and Control "Workgroup B"

Waleed Javaid

- The workgroup is finalizing the NTM product, which is currently being reviewed by an SME. The completed product will be shared with workgroup A to ensure product alignment.
- The completed workgroup B CDI product will be shared with workgroup A to make sure the CDI products from both workgroups complement each other.
- The workgroup is working to address feedback on the CRE and *C. auris* products that were shared with the Council for a vote in October 2019.
- Other products in development include a Group A Strep product, as well as an Influenza product in collaboration with workgroup A.



Laboratory Workgroup

Kelly Wroblewski

- The newly-formed lab workgroup is focusing on developing Chapter 6 of the CORHA High-Level Guidance and continues to make progress on this charge.

Policy Workgroup

Maureen Tierney

- The Policy workgroup has completed the framework on HAI outbreak notification and is finalizing scenario examples on how to apply the principles in the framework and identifying key resources to supplement the product.
- Maureen also mentioned that the workgroup has benefitted from the participation of its newest members, Chris Baliga and Rick Martinello who have provided valuable input from the perspectives of hospital epidemiologists.
- The workgroup submitted an abstract on the HAI outbreak notification framework for the SHEA Decennial conference. The abstract was accepted as a poster presentation.

Communications Task Force

Bonnie Herring, Martha Ngoh

- CORHA [website metrics](#), ranging from January 2019 – December 2019 were presented. (Source Google Analytics):
 - 1,879 users and new users ~225. Users represent individuals or unique IP addresses
 - 2,787 sessions. Session represent a single visit to the website. E.g. two visits to the website from one user in one day will count as two sessions
 - 6,574 pageviews. Pageviews represent each individual time a page on your website is loaded by a User. E.g. One session can include multiple page views
 - The *resources and products* page was the second most-viewed page, following the homepage
- Months with the highest visitors:
 - October 2019 – 252 users (the CORHA *Insider* was disseminated in October)
 - June 2019 – 245 users (the CORHA *Insider* was highlighted in the DHQP HAI Monthly Digest)
 - April 2019 – 243 users (the CORHA *Insider* was disseminated in April and highlighted in the DHQP HAI Monthly Digest)
 - December 2019 – 234 users
- 57% of traffic to the website was direct, while 36% of traffic to the website came from search engines such as google, bing, etc.
- It was announced that the resources and products page is currently being updated to better organize and simplify product and resource searches. A newsfeed will later be added to the CORHA homepage to highlight relevant news and key guidance.

CORHA High-Level Guidance (HLG) Chapter Overview

Wendy Bamberg

CORHA HLG Consultant, Wendy Bamberg provided an overview of the forthcoming CORHA HLG, which aims to provide overall guidance on HAI/AR outbreak response that is not condition/pathogen specific. The following are key takeaways from the discussion:



- The primary audience is public health agencies. Healthcare facilities, other government agencies and partners may also find it useful as information related to these entities is also included in the HLG (although in less detail than public health).
- From FDA's perspective the use of the word "Guidance" in the title may be of concern. Perhaps "Resource Manual" may be more suitable. May need to consider other wording for "Guidance".
- As it currently stands, the chapter structure is as follows:
 - Preface
 - Background/overview
 - Outline:
 - Each section has 1 or more paragraphs
 - Tables, Figures, and Boxes
 - "CORHA Keys to Success" call-out boxes
 - References
- The chapter development process is as follows:
 - Chapter outline development
 - Key informant interviews to inform chapter outline. Fourteen key-informants representing state public health epidemiologists and program directors, local public health epidemiologists, medical epidemiologists and infection preventionists were interviewed
 - Chapter review by consultant or SME
- A tentative timeline for the completion of the HLG is as follows:
 - July 31, 2020 – Finalize chapters 2-10 and supplemental A and B, which will be completed on a rolling basis
 - July 31, 2020 – Complete drafts of the HLG overview, structural pieces (acknowledgements, table of contents, etc)
 - August 31, 2020 – Finalize chapter 1 and structural pieces
 - Second half of 2020 – production and product-release phase
- Meeting participants shared the following feedback following Wendy's discussion:
 - The spring/summer could be entirely dedicated to HLG chapter development
 - Consider releasing products in early 2021
 - Also consider federal agency and member organization review timelines
- Next, Wendy went over each of the HLG chapter outlines. The chapter outlines as well as detailed feedback received during this session will be posted to Basecamp, under ('Docs& Files' - > 'Meetings and Calls' -> 'January 2020 In-Person Meeting').

Following the HLG session, workgroups met separately to plan or develop HLG chapters assigned to respective workgroups.

- Chapter 4 *HAI/AR Outbreak Detection and Reporting*: Workgroup A
- Chapter 5 *Investigation and Control of HAI/AR Pathogen Outbreaks*: Workgroup B
- Chapter 6 *Laboratory Best Practices in Support of HAI/AR Pathogen Outbreak Response*: Lab
- Chapter 9 *Notification and Communication of Information about HAI/AR Outbreaks*: Policy

Council Member Meeting:

Council members met to review the CORHA Bylaws, which were recently updated by the Governance Committee and were pending a Council vote. The Bylaws were approved with suggested changes (see Basecamp for tracked changes) by the following members who were present at the time of voting:



APHL – Kelly Wroblewski *representing Jafar Razeq*; **APIC** – Linda Greene; **ASTHO** – Gerd Clabaugh, Kris Ehresmann and Meredith Allen *representing Scott Harris*; **CDC** – Joe Perz; **CSTE** –Maureen Tierney and Monica Schroeder *representing a TBD CSTE voting member*; **NACCHO** – Hillary Hanson; **SHEA** – Waleed Javaid | Total # of votes = 10

Thursday, January 23, 2020

2019-nCoV Discussion

Given the progression of the 2019-nCoV outbreak occurring in Wuhan, China, Council members held an impromptu meeting on Thursday morning to share their experiences so far relating to response activities. Members shared perspectives from state and local health departments and healthcare facilities. Some key takeaways from the discussion were:

- Some states and local health departments, as well as some facilities have implemented screening protocols and health alerts.
- There is a need for more specific guidelines and recommendations from CDC. Health departments and facilities shared that CDC's definitions of Persons Under Investigation (PUIs), as well as the inclusion criteria for screening, testing and isolation are very broad, which pose logistical issues for states (e.g. where to keep travelers, or keeping families together, etc).
- Another concern that was shared is the media's portrayal of the outbreak and what may be interpreted as comparisons between the coronavirus outbreak to the 2016 Ebola virus outbreak.
- Transportation issues were noted.
- There is also a concern about transmission in healthcare facilities, and overall ambiguity about the virus (e.g. infectivity, case counts, etc).
- Self-isolation protocols for those who are stable and awaiting testing results may provide some temporary solutions for logistical issues (although test results may take a while).
- Participants also expressed the importance for collaboration and communication with other state and federal partners, as well as international partners.
- There are resources available, particularly a dashboard that provides valuable data and information about what is happening overseas.

Following workgroups breakout sessions, meeting participants reconvened for a detailed walk-through of HLG chapters 4 and 5, led by Wendy Bamberg. Detailed notes from that session will be posted to Basecamp, under ('Docs& Files' -> 'Meetings and Calls' -> 'January 2020 In-Person Meeting').

Closing Session

The following items were noted during the closing session of the meeting:

- The Policy workgroup framework will be sent to the GC for review. The goal is to complete GC and possibly Council reviews and approvals before the SHEA Decennial conference, where there will be presentations on the topic of HAI notification.
- The Council also agreed to add an entry on the 2019-nCoV outbreak to the CORHA website resources and products page, as well as the homepage slider.
- Meeting participants were asked to be on the lookout for preliminary information about the next meeting, which may occur in June or July.
- The Governance Committee Co-Chairs gave closing remarks, thanking participants for their attendance and engagement throughout the course of the two-day meeting.