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**Meeting Minutes of:**  
**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Levels of Care: Levels III and IV (LOC)**

August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

<b>IDPH Offices</b> 69 W. Washington, 35th Floor Chicago, IL	<b>IDPH Offices</b> 535 West Jefferson, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Springfield, IL
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**Attendees**

Members in Attendance	Guests and IDPH
Beau Batton William Grobman (Phone) Don Houchins Jessica Kandel (Phone) Kim Kocur (Phone) Stephen Locher Nicole Niwa Kousiki Patra	Tanya Dworkin, IDPH Miranda Scott, IDPH Shannon Lightner, IDPH Alexander Smith, IDPH Trishna Harris, IDPH Andrea Palmer, IDPH  Myra Sabini Cindy Mitchell Chris Emmons Shirley Scott Robyn Gude Jenny Brandenburg Jeff Loughead Lance Kovacz Maripat Zeschke Dawn Reimann
	<b>Members Not In Attendance</b> -

**Meeting Minutes of:**  
**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**LEVELS OF CARE COMMITTEE: LEVELS III and IV MEETING**  
**August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**  
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## **Motions**

1. **Motion to adjourn.**
  - Unanimous yes.

## **Introductions and Welcome**

- Beau Batton, the levels of care: Levels III and IV break out group, called the meeting to order about 9:00 A.M. and went around the room and the phone asking everyone introduce themselves.
- The August 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes didn't make it to the committee, so the group put the approval on hold until the next meeting.

## **Agenda Items**

### **1. Level III Requirements**

- Pediatric Subspecialty needs were discussed – language consistent with current perinatal code or the AAP Statement was considered acceptable for most subspecialties with the exception of surgery, radiology, neurology, ophthalmology, cardiology (each discussed individually)
- The group discussed if they are missing any specialists that might be needed.
- Pediatric surgery was brought up, but they committee decided to save the main discussion until the group begins looking at the Level IV needs and additional data regarding common neonatal surgeries is available.
- Discussion around trying not to limit all surgeries (rather just the most complex surgeries, including cardiac) to only level IV NICUs.
- **Action Item:** Ask Amanda to help with surgical volume data through CPT codes with input from Dr. Jessica Kandel
- **Action Item:** Devote October meeting to pediatric surgical/anesthesia discussion.
- Discussion on need for: Social Worker, Dietian, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Pharmacist
- The need for a dedicated NICU Lactation Consultant was discussed: 1 FTE Dedicated/exclusive to the NICU (although may not be a single individuals but spread effort among individuals), such that a consultant is always available for NICU during daytime hours
- The need for a 1.0 FTE NICU Nurse Educator was discussed:
  - Full Time Employee wanted
  - Do level III hospitals have someone in this role currently? Varies, but most yes

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- **Public Comment**, Shirley Scott: Level of educator does matter, should have a Master's Degree
- **Public Comment**, Myra Sabini: You will limit your pool of candidates with a Master's Degree requirement and such a requirement has significant hospital budget implications.
- **Public Comment**, Dawn Reimann: Master's degree would be imperative because 5 years minimum might not have the important education on how to teach/train.
- There was general agreement that a 1.0 FTE NICU Nurse Educator is recommended and that such a person should have at least one of the following: (1) A Master's Degree in Nursing; (2) a minimum of 5 years of experience in the NICU with specialty certification in NICU nursing
- **Action Item**: Shirley Scott to send eligibility criteria for neonatal nurse certification exam to Alex Smith.
- **Public Comment**, Jeff Loughhead: Asked about respiratory care requirements for the hospitals.
- The optimal requirements for Respiratory Therapy Care were discussed:
  - Current code is good and maybe needs minimal changes although the requirement that the Director of Respiratory Care have a Bachelor's Degree was discussed. This is commonly not the case as RTs can work with only an Associate's Degree.
  - **Action Item**: Beau Batton to look at respiratory care requirements for next meeting
- **Public Comment**: Question on a hospice care team and ethics team. The committee agreed this needs to be discussed at a future meeting.

**2. Next Steps**

- To look at: Follow up clinics, experience and degree requirements for NICU medical director's and nurse managers, Do level III's need an affiliation with a Medical School, Neonatal transport QI, and surgery and anesthesia.
- **Action Item**: Jessica Kandel and Beau Batton to get CPT codes to IDPH.
- **Public Comment**: Asked about the minutes and next meeting time. They are listed on the website.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Unanimous yes.