

Meeting Minutes

HB 21-1317 Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Review Council

June 29, 2022; 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm MT

General Remarks and Welcome

- Dr. Chris Urbina, Chair of the Scientific Review Council (SRC), called to order the eighth meeting of the SRC on June 29, 2022, at 1:00 pm MT.

Scientific Review Council Introductions and Update on Conflicts of Interest

- The Chair conducted a roll call for both the Council and the Colorado School of Public Health project team members.
- The following Council members were present and introduced:
 - Chris Urbina
 - Paula Riggs
 - Joseph Schacht
 - Kent Hutchison
- The following Council members were absent:
 - Greg Kinney, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Lesley Brooks, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Kennon Heard, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Erica Wymore, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Archana Shrestha, with advanced notice and apologies
 - David Brumbaugh, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Susan Calcaterra, with advanced notice and apologies
- The following SPH team members were present and introduced:
 - Jonathan Samet
 - Greg Tung
 - Tianjing Li
 - Rosa Lawrence
 - Neeloo Soleimanpour
 - Louis Leslie
 - Thaistsara Rittiphairoj
 - Lisa Bero
 - Jean-Pierre Oberste
 - Ashley Brooks-Russell
 - Meghan Buran
 - Bobbi Ortega
- The following SPH team members were absent:
 - Christi Piper, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Ali Maffey, with advanced notice and apologies
 - Sam Wang, with advanced notice and apologies
- Changes to COI forms for any Council members
 - None

- Chair Chris Urbina noted that we do not have enough members to meet our quorum during today's meeting and will hold off on any items that may need a vote for a later time.
- No questions for Chair Chris Urbina.

Review of Agenda, Meeting Minutes, and Response to SRC Recommendations

- Chair Chris Urbina reminded everyone in attendance that meeting minutes and the response to SRC recommendations are available on the project website under the resources tab.
- Review of agenda with Council
 - Agenda shown on screen for the panelists (Council and Colorado SPH) as well as public attendees.

No questions for Chair Chris Urbina.

Progress Update from the Cannabis Research & Policy Project

- Dr. Tianjing Li presented on the progress to date of the scoping review.
- Dr. Tianjing Li discussed the progress of the data extraction process where the initial literature search resulted in over 46,000 titles and abstracts reduced through screening to 489 observational studies and randomized control trials in addition to 264 systematic review case reports/case series for data extraction. Currently, we have finished extraction of the study characteristics from 274 articles collected by our student workers who are assisting with the study. About 43% of those studies have been verified by one of the methodologists on the team, primarily looking for concentrations in association with health outcomes. A full verification for all 489 studies will occur with regard to the exposure, outcomes, and associations.

Questions and Answers

- Chair Chris Urbina asked when the articles are verified by the methodologist; will they be added to the dashboard immediately?
 - Dr. Tianjing Li and Rosa Lawrence answered that 68 studies which have been extracted and verified are available on the dashboard.
- Chair Chris Urbina asked when the public will have access to the dashboard?
 - Dr. Lisa Bero commented that the dashboard will be available to the public after the entire data extraction process is completed.
- Rosa Lawrence commented that the uploading of data into the dashboard will occur more regularly. In addition, two new buttons have been added on the dashboard to submit questions and any errors identified on the dashboard. By submitting a response, it will automatically send an email to Rosa and Jean-Pierre to review the submission.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet asked Dr. Tianjing Li when we anticipate that data extraction will be completed.
 - Dr. Tianjing Li responded that data extraction is on track to be completed by end of July 2022 when an additional 2-3 weeks will be needed for the data to be verified by one of the methodologists and interpretations to be made.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet noted that in the initial report that will be sent to the Legislature this Friday illustrates the exposures and outcomes that are based on the 68 studies that have been verified.

The data has been timestamped in the report and the additional time that we will need to include the complete results from the data extraction was also explicitly stated.

No further questions for Dr. Tianjing Li and the data extraction team.

Review Final Draft of Report with SRC

- Dr. Jonathan Samet provided a review of the Initial Report for the Legislature developed by the Cannabis Research and Policy Team that we plan to submit on Friday. A copy was sent to the SRC last Friday for comment, now including a discussion and a next steps section largely outlining that we will be completing the full data extraction and verification process of all the applicable studies within two months. The team will then take a deeper dive into the literature and develop next steps based on the scope of our findings in order to make critical recommendations. This initial report documents our progress on this very large review. The next report will bring this first step to a close.

Questions and Answers

- Dr. Jonathan Samet asked if any of the Cannabis Research and Policy Team wanted to make any remarks.
 - Dr. Tianjing Li said we will check the data and develop tables based on the SRC's response after we complete the entire data extraction process. We will consider cross tabulation of the tables to display the results.
 - Dr. Jonathan Samet commented that we will know how much information we have and what applicable recommendations we can make after we review the final set of results. At that point, the SRC should have access to the full analysis which will be available on the dashboard.
 - Dr. Lisa Bero added that the dashboard allows us to phrase results based on the proposed questions, but there is data behind the dashboard that can be displayed in various ways to answer any additional questions the SRC may have.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet showed the report we have developed and placed emphasis on the "discussion of findings" and "next steps" section. The next steps outline the data that we have reviewed thus far and the dose response. Moving forward, we will be able to categorize critical research gaps aiming for a complete version by September.

Questions and Answers

- Chair Chris Urbina asked if any SRC members that were present have comments to make about the report.
- Chair Chris Urbina commented that he was impressed with the quality of the report and the language highlighted throughout the report encompassed the comments that the SRC had raised about health equity, tolerance, and chronicity.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet appreciated the acknowledgment and comments made.
- Dr. Joseph Schacht asked if there are plans in place with the Colorado Legislature that would overlap with the report, particularly around restricting high THC concentrations.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet said that he is not aware of any such restrictions and asked Dr. Greg Tung if he had any insight into this matter.

- Dr. Greg Tung said that he was not aware of any efforts running independently of our project. He did mention that finding the scientific basis for potential regulation was the rationale for the project. He foresees that the legislature will examine our report to help inform next steps from a research and policy perspective.
- Dr. Paula Riggs commented that these are reasonable steps outlined in the report for now.
- Chair Chris Urbina asked if the SRC must approve this draft as he only recalls that the SRC was charged to provide feedback.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet agreed that the SRC's responsibility is to provide feedback and they may offer recommendations, but do not need to vote on the report to be submitted. Dr. Jonathan Samet highlighted that it is premature to make overall recommendations at this point.

No further questions for Dr. Jonathan Samet and the Cannabis Research and Policy Team.

SRC Plans and Approach

- Chair Chris Urbina mentioned that the initial report from Dr. Jonathan Samet's team will be sent out to the Legislature for review and evaluation by Friday, July 1, 2022. He thanked the team for their efforts to complete this report
- Dr. Jonathan Samet thanked the Cannabis Research and Policy Team as well as the SRC for their efforts and continual feedback.
- Chair Chris Urbina commented that he is drafting a letter that will be addressed from the SRC. Chair Chris Urbina plans to create a working document for future SRC meetings for SRC members to develop their thoughts within the next 2-3 weeks. Chair Chris Urbina believes it is premature to make recommendations without the complete data extraction being completed.
- Dr. Paula Riggs and Dr. Joseph Schacht agreed that it would be beneficial to wait until after reviewing the final findings from the data extraction process to form their recommendations.
- Chair Chris Urbina asked Dr. Jonathan Samet about establishing a meeting later in August or September.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet notes that mid-late August would be reasonable to meet and review the data progress
 - Dr. Tianjing Li and Dr. Lisa Bero agreed that a meeting in late August would be an appropriate next meeting time.
- Chair Chris Urbina summarized that we will meeting in late August and the administration team will send out a notice to the team to schedule the next meeting.
- Dr. Jonathan Samet acknowledged that scheduling a meeting in late August would be appropriate, and we are approaching the one-year mark of when this group of individuals were charged with this project. Dr. Jonathan Samet thanks the team for how quickly we have been able to progress in this project.

No further questions or comments for Chair Chris Urbina and Dr. Jonathan Samet.

Next Meeting Timing and Closing Remarks

- No final questions or comments
- Meeting Adjourned 1:30 pm (MT).

