

From: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 5/16/2018 3:34:22 PM
Subject: RE: Discussion Topic

Notes from meeting with Department of Corrections.

I met with Director Stirling, Dexter Lee (Government Affairs), and Terre Marshall (Health Services).

The main take away is that they do not have evidence of a pattern of transmission within the correctional facilities for infectious diseases like Hepatitis C or HIV.

They test all inmates at intake for infectious diseases including HIV, Tuberculosis, and Syphilis. They test any on dialysis, HIV positive, or elevated liver enzymes for Hepatitis C.

They provide all inmates with the T-Dap vaccine (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis).

Currently in the system:

287 HIV positive

600 being monitored for Hepatitis C

By the end of June 44 will have been treated for Hepatitis C (Starting with those in Stages 3 & 4, now working on those in stage 2). Approximate cost of treatment is \$25,000 per inmate.

In order to prevent/ track transmission they monitor viral load and liver enzymes (specifically for HEP C). They also provide education on what results in transmission and how to prevent transmission. In particular they mentioned tattooing and sharing needles as the two main concerns for transmission of HEP C. They explained that unlike California, South Carolina does not have as big a problem with prison tattoos (apparently in California it is a common form of prison imitation to receive a prison tattoo).

The last issue with spreading of infectious disease in South Carolina was with Syphilis in the 90s.

A common issue with HEP C is that treatment does not create an immunity so a person can become re-infected. Thus far they have only had one failed treatment (I'm not clear if this is because of reinfection during treatment or some other cause).

Other notes:

90 positive for TB in 1st quarter of 2018, treated with 3 drugs over 12 weeks, if they are within 4 months of release they receive additional education since they may not complete treatment while incarcerated.

They have testing and facilities in place for TB.

They have a flu vaccine campaign every year for inmates and employees.

*Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)*

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 11:41 AM

To: Catherine McNicoll
Subject: Re: Discussion Topic

Ok. Let me know tomorrow. We may have to check in with them.

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 11:40 AM
To: Danny Varat
Subject: RE: Discussion Topic

No I have not heard yet

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 10:58 AM
To: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
Subject: Re: Discussion Topic
Did you hear from Dexter?

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 2:24 PM
To: Danny Varat
Subject: RE: Discussion Topic

Please advise

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Subject: FW: Discussion Topic

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Dexter Lee (C013424) [<mailto:Lee.Dexter@doc.sc.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 7:55 AM
To: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: Re: Discussion Topic

Catherine,

Bryan would like to meet with the Lieutenant Governor to discuss this issue. Please share some available dates for the Lieutenant Governor. Hopefully, we can coordinate a meeting soon. Thanks

Dexter

From: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 12:49 PM

To: Dexter Lee (C013424)

Subject: RE: Discussion Topic

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please do not click on a link or open any attachments unless you are confident it is from a trusted source. *****

Just touching base to follow up from last week, I certainly understand that you all are likely very busy this week. Thank you.

Best Regards,

Catherine McNicoll

Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Governor's Office

CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov

803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Dexter Lee (C013424) [<mailto:Lee.Dexter@doc.sc.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 10:26 AM

To: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: RE: Discussion Topic

Catherine,

I will follow up with Director Stirling to schedule a meeting. Thanks

Dexter Lee

Legislative Liaison/Special Assistant to the Director

South Carolina Department of Corrections

4444 Broad River Road

P.O. Box 21787

Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1787

803-896-1731(office) or 803-413-7435(mobile)

803-896-1766 Fax

From: Catherine McNicoll [<mailto:CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>]

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 3:47 PM

To: Dexter Lee (C013424) <Lee.Dexter@doc.sc.gov>

Subject: FW: Discussion Topic

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please do not click on a link or open any attachments unless you are confident it is from a trusted source. *****

Good Afternoon Dexter,

The Lieutenant Governor would like to know more about what is currently being done to identify and treat

respiratory and blood-born pathogens in inmates. Would it be possible for Director Stirling to meet to discuss this topic? Thank you.

*Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)*

From: Bryant, Kevin [<mailto:kevin@kevinbryant.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 11:57 AM
To: Lt. Governor's Office <LtGov@scstatehouse.gov>; Patrick Britton-Harr <pbh@cmglaboratories.com>
Subject: Fwd: Discussion Topic
Catherine, Please see if Director Stirling would meet with us about the topic described below. Thanks

Sincerely,
Kevin

Kevin L. Bryant
Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina
104-A North Avenue
Anderson, South Carolina 29625
www.kevinbryant.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patrick Britton-Harr** <pbh@cmglaboratories.com>
Date: Tue, Mar 20, 2018 at 11:46 AM
Subject: Discussion Topic
To: Kevin Bryant <kevin@kevinbryant.com>

Mr. Bryant,

Your Honor, as you may now know, our group is extremely proactive oriented when it comes to Healthcare as a whole. Our main focus is patient advocacy in order to provide a reduction in the overall Healthcare cost. As the old adage and quote by Mr. Benjamin Franklin goes "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Albeit Mr. Franklin was speaking in terms of Fire Prevention at the time, it is as true and applicable today for our healthcare system as it was back when he was addressing his constituents in Philadelphia to create the first volunteer firefighting organization.

I bring this up as I have come across a few interesting articles that I have included below; addressing a major concern with inmates in our correctional facilities. During our conversations we have touched on not only an AntiMicrobial Stewardship but also an Antibiotic Stewardship as 70% of all prescriptions are prescribed inaccurately or are maintained unnecessarily or in my personal opinion perhaps a lack of oversight due to many mitigating factors such as over worked and under staffed.

That being said, multiple studies show that the top infections and diseases in correction facilities are either Respiratory or Bloodborne pathogens. As our society continues to develop we are becoming more aware and garnering a further understanding that coincides with Mr. Franklin's quote for the betterment of all.

My thoughts are and would appreciate to hear your thoughts on the following: If South Carolina would establish a program to evaluate a test market in correctional facilities to begin proactive testing for both Respiratory Panels and Bloodborne pathogens such as hepatitis would we be able to prevent the spread of these infections and diseases throughout the population by being able to accurately detect and diagnose at the infancy of the inmates incarceration period? Would we be providing a much needed service that effectively and efficiently continues to reduce our overall Healthcare costs?

As our current and future leader of the great state of South Carolina, as well as being a Pharmacist by trade I thought it appropriate to bring this to your attention and ask for your evaluation and thoughts. My intention is for discussion and educational purposes only and not intended to overstep my position as a healthcare advocate.

I appreciate all of our conversations and the time you personally provide to not only myself but to the citizens of our state. I greatly look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Sincerely,
Patrick

Patrick Britton-Harr
President & CEO
Coastal Management Group, Inc.
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843.790.3526

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/suit-sc-failure-to-test-inmates-for-hepatitis-c-is-cruel/2018/03/13/f3ada75c-26f4-11e8-a227-fd2b009466bc_story.html?utm_term=.01702d1517b8

<https://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2018/03/13/lawsuit-could-force-sc-spend-tens-millions-treat-inmates-hepatitis-c/420868002/>