

## Texas Department of State Health Services

### Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR)

APPROVED: Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 25, 2021  
9:00 a.m.

Physical Location: Department of State Health Services  
Robert Bernstein Bldg., Room K-100  
1100 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
TEAMS Virtual Meeting

**Table 1:** Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders member attendance at the Monday, October 25, 2021 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Mr. Byron Cordes	X		Dr. Char Hu		X
Dr. Laura DeFina	X		Ms. Valerie Krueger (Ex Officio)		X
Dr. Marc Diamond	X		Dr. Eddie L. Patton Jr.	X	
Mr. Joe A. Evans Jr.		X	Dr. Mary Quiceno	X	
Dr. Vaunette Fay	X		Dr. Sudha Seshardi	X	
Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm (Ex Officio)	X		Mr. Terrence Sommers	X	
Ms. Ana Guerrero Gore	X		Ms. Angela Turner	X	
Mr. Michael Gayle (Ex Officio)	X				

**Yes:** Indicates attended the meeting. **No:** Indicates did not attend the meeting.

#### Agenda Item 1: Call to Order, Logistics, Roll Call and Introductions

Dr. Marc Diamond, Chair, called the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (TCADR) meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., welcomed attendees, introduced Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff and the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Advisory Committee Coordination Office (ACCO) staff. Dr. Diamond turned the meeting over to Ms. Francesca Kupper, ACCO facilitator, to read the meeting logistical announcements and to conduct the member roll call. Ms. Kupper stated the presence of quorum.

#### Agenda Item 2: Consideration of March 23, 2021 draft meeting minutes

Dr. Diamond referred members to the draft minutes from the March 23, 2021, meeting and called for any edits or discussion of the minutes. Hearing no discussion, Dr. Diamond requested a motion to approve the minutes.

**MOTION:** Dr. Vaunette Fay, moved to approve the draft March 23, 2021, minutes as presented in the meeting. Dr. Laura DeFina seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote with no nays nor abstentions.

### **Agenda Item 3: Department of State Health Services (DSHS) representative report**

Dr. Diamond introduced Ms. Rachel Wiseman, Director, Tobacco, Diabetes, and School Health Unit, Acting Manager, Chronic Disease Branch, Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention Section, Community Health Improvement Division, who provided the DSHS report.

Highlights of the report included:

- In Texas Health and Safety Code, Title 2, Subtitle E, Chapter 101, the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislature removed the requirement for the department to “maintain a population data base of persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders in this state.” The updated statute is located on the TCADRD page on the program website.
- DSHS is beginning the process of reviewing and updating rules and bylaws for all councils and advisory committees. The Alzheimer’s Council has one rule, 801, in the Administrative Code. The TCADRD does not have bylaws. We will be working with the TCADRD in 2022 to review Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part 12 and create bylaws to help define TCADRD procedures including subcommittees.
- Regarding the Alzheimer’s awareness campaign: For the FY20-21 biennium and with funds allocated for a public awareness campaign for Alzheimer’s in House Bill (HB) 1 (86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature), the Alzheimer’s Disease Program (ADP) worked with Sherry Mathews Group to develop an awareness campaign that launched in August 2020 with the tagline: *See the signs. Start a conversation*. The campaign included ADP website revisions, TV, radio, digital, print advertisements, and targeted email announcements. The campaign included images that reflect diversity in English and Spanish. The campaign materials are available in the Alzheimer’s Disease Campaign Toolkit on the program website.
- Results for fiscal year (FY) 2020 include:
  - More than 21 million impressions total.
  - 17,726 television/radio spots aired statewide.
  - Print generated 534,400 total impressions.
  - Digital/social media produced 20,611,688 impressions.
  - More than 800 webpage visits in first two months of campaign.
  - Outreach to potential stakeholder partners included 505 emails distributed and 64 phone calls made.

- Senate Bill (SB) 1, (87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Regular Session 2021) allocated \$1 million to continue the Alzheimer's awareness campaign over the FY22-23 biennium. These funds will also be used to add questions about dementia and caregiving to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey in 2022 and 2023. DSHS is reviewing vendor proposals for FY22-FY23. DSHS responded to feedback from the Texas Alzheimer's Disease Partnership to expand the campaign for diverse populations. The FY22-23 campaign will have an emphasis on Asian and African American populations.
- The Alzheimer's Disease Program, Chronic Disease Epidemiology Branch, and the Texas Alzheimer's Disease Partnership, created the *2021 Texas Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Caregiver Survey* to learn more about the experiences of current and former unpaid caregivers and the progress made towards the strategies and activities listed in the Texas State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease. A total of 360 respondents were included in the analysis. The report is posted to the program website.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) representative report**

Dr. Diamond introduced Mr. Michael Gayle, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Long-Term Care Regulatory Program Operations, who provided the HHSC report.

Highlights of the report included:

- **2021 Quality and Long-Team Care Conference** – six trainings and presentations were provided virtually.
  - Prescribing Antipsychotics in Persons Living with Dementia: What Do We Do Now?
  - Implementing a Quality Improvement Cycle to Address Behaviors and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia While Reducing Antipsychotics
  - Montessori: Person-Centered Approach to Leadership, Staff-Engagement and Dementia Care
  - Using the Montessori Method to Engage Adults with Developmental Disabilities and Dementia
  - The Evolution of Digital Therapeutics to Engage People with Dementia and Families
  - Thinking Differently About Dementia and Person-Centered Practices
- Future Alzheimer's and dementia trainings will be performed by joint training in the long-term care regulatory area for providers.
- The 2022 training schedule is being developed and will be submitted to TCADRD.

## **Agenda Item 5: Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium (TARCC) representative report**

Dr. Diamond introduced Dr. C. Munro Cullum, PhD., Scientific Director, who provided the TARCC report.

Highlights of the report included:

- **TARCC Steering Committee** – steering committee members provide expertise, input and guidance on the following key issues through quarterly conference calls and annual scientific meetings:
  - TARCC scientific direction.
  - Enhancing awareness of TARCC resources and activities.
  - Fostering collaborative TARCC data-use projects.
  - Helping to generate local interest in collaborative projects and grant opportunities.
  - Encouraging and tracking TARCC grant applications from home institution.
  - Regular monitoring of progress of each site's TARCC grants and providing semi-annual summary reports to Steering Committee.
  - Identifying and recruiting external reviewers for TARCC grant applications.
  - Reviewing TARCC sample / data requests.
  - Reviewing abstracts and proposals for TARCC scientific meetings.
  - Interacting with institutional legislative personnel to promote TARCC.
  - Preparing their respective institution's presentation to the External Advisory Committee during biannual reviews.
- **TARCC Investigator Grants Program:**
  - In 2018, with a mature database and upon recommendations from the External Advisory Committee (EAC), TARCC moved from a cohort surveillance model to a grants-based program in order to support the best science in the state and enhance TARCC data utilization and productivity.
  - For the 2021 grant awards, a request for proposals (RFP) was issued with applications due December 10, 2021.
  - Active Grant Projects are Listed on the TARCC Website - <http://www.txalzresearch.org/research/investigator-grant-awards/>
  - The investigator-initiated research grants program was designed to support an innovative, translational-based research structure across the state, including established and early-to-mid career scientists at TARCC member institutions.
  - \$52,471,321 awarded in TARCC research funding since 2005.

- **TARCC Productivity:**
  - Since 2018, 33 research and fellowship grants have been awarded to TARCC member institutions, an investment of \$14.9 million into neurodegeneration research in the state of Texas.
  - The investment in TARCC has directly resulted in \$37,248,733 in additional National Institutes of Health and foundation-funded projects since the 2019 biennial period.
  - Research and education activities - 49 publications, 7 book chapters, 73 posters and exhibit discussions, and 4 graduate level theses in the last two plus years covering a wide range of scientific discoveries, from basic science to clinical outcomes.
- **TARCC 2022 Scientific Symposium:**
  - Scheduled for January 26-27, 2022, in Austin, Texas with options for virtual and in-person attendance.
  - January 26, 2022: The External Advisory Committee, headed by Ron Petersen from the Mayo Clinic, will lead an in-person review of TARCC activities and provide us with feedback and recommendations.
  - January 27, 2022: Scientific Symposium at UT Austin Alumni Center.
  - Keynote by Sterling Johnson, PhD, Professor of Geriatrics and Dementia, University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health.
- TARCC continues to grow in national and international visibility with scientific progress in the fight against dementia and is establishing itself in the field through its scientific contributions, unique statewide collaborative approach, and cutting-edge grants program.

**Agenda Item 6: TCADRD discussion and possible action on TCADRD activities; TCADRD’s 2022 biennial report; and TCADRD work groups**

Dr. Diamond led the member discussion of the TCADRD’s biennial report work group, TCADRD’s 2022 biennial report, and the timeline for development and completion of the report. Dr. Patton led the member discussion of the TCADRD activities workgroup.

**Highlights of the TCADRD 2022 biennial report discussion included:**

- The purpose of the biennial report work group was to receive recommendations from the entire TCADRD membership using an input form, condense duplicate recommendations, and create a list for the entire Council to review at the meeting.

- Input was received to amend 2020 language for Recommendation 1 and strategies 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for Recommendation 1 for the 2022 biennial report.
- New Strategies to consider for Recommendation 1 to include in the 2022 biennial report were to establish a research information center so that both patients and physicians can locate research efforts throughout the state and to initiate surveillance for a long-term sequelae of SARS CoV-2 on brain structure and function.
- No input was received to amend 2020 language in Recommendation 2 and strategies 1, 2, and 3 for Recommendation 2. Input was received to amend 2020 language in strategy 4 and 5 for Recommendation 2 for the 2022 biennial report
- No input was received to amend 2020 language for Recommendation 3 and strategies 3 and 4 for Recommendation 3. Input was received to amend 2020 language in strategies 1 and 2 for Recommendation 3 for the 2022 biennial report.
- No input was received to amend 2020 language for Recommendation 4 and strategy 1 for Recommendation 4. Input was received to amend 2020 language in strategy 2 for Recommendation 4 for the 2022 biennial report.
- New strategies to consider for Recommendation 4 to include in the 2022 biennial report were to work with DSHS to create educational material concerning the long-term cognitive effects of Covid 19 post Covid syndrome and track if services are reaching most disadvantaged zip codes, persons.

#### **Highlights of the TCADRD Activities Work Group:**

- The purpose of the activities work group meeting was to discuss and create a list of possible actions for TCADRD to consider regarding Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.
- Themes captured during the discussion were to describe the "patient journey" of people newly diagnosed and their caregivers, and the impact of social isolation on people with dementia and their caregivers.
- Proposed activities were to develop a Texas-specific educational video about the "patient journey" and create an issue brief on the impact of social isolation for people with dementia and their caregivers to include the COVID pandemic and general caregiving at a distance.

**MOTION:** Mr. Cordes moved to approve TCADRDR exploration of a Texas-specific educational video regarding the “patient journey.” Mr. Terence Sommers seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote with no nays nor abstentions.

**MOTION:** Dr. Fay moved to approve TCADRDR exploration and development of an issue brief on social isolation. Dr. Seshadri seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote with no nays nor abstentions.

### **Agenda Item 7: Election of Vice Chair**

Dr. Diamond introduced Ms. Kupper, ACCO facilitator, HHSC to conduct the Officer Election for Vice Chair.

Highlights of the election procedure included:

- Ms. Kupper read the Officer Election Procedure aloud for the record and noted that TCADRDR members adopted the Officer Election Procedure on October 12, 2020.
- According to the officer election procedure, a roll call vote of the members must be conducted in a virtual setting.
- Members were given the opportunity to provide additional nominations from the floor prior to the election of Vice Chair. The nominee receiving the most votes will be elected as Vice Chair.
- Ms. Kupper announced one nomination had been received by the members for the Vice Chair, Dr. Eddie L. Patton, Jr., who had accepted the nomination; no other nominees were received from the floor. Dr. Patton briefly shared his qualifications for the Vice Chair position. Ms. Kupper conducted a roll call vote of the members and noted Dr. Patton was re-elected as the TCADRDR Vice Chair with nine members voting yea, no nays and one abstention (E. Patton).

### **Agenda Item 8: Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

### **Agenda Item 9: Announcements**

- Dr. Patton expressed thanks to TCADRDR members in support of his re-election as Vice Chair to the TCADRDR.

**Agenda Item 10: Adjournment**

Dr. Diamond provided closing remarks, thanked members and staff and adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m. CST.

*Please click on the link to the archived HHSC webcast of the October 25, 2021, TCADR meeting that will be available for viewing approximately two years from date of meeting. [Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders](#)*