### **Epilepsy Treatment and Patient Safety Task Force**

## Meeting Minutes 9/11/12

### Welcome

Dale Todd called to order the meeting of the Epilepsy Treatment and Patient Safety Task Force at 3:00 PM on Tuesday 9/11/12 in Room 518 of the Lucas State Office building, in Des Moines, IA.

#### Present

Dr. David Friedgood, Chasity Mease, Brett Barke, Dale Todd, Kristin Wells, Dr. David B. Moore Others in attendance: Jill Myers Geadelman, IDPH, Threase Harms, Advocacy Strategies, Annie Sciurba, Pharmacy Student, Spenser Rhines, Pharmacy Student

I. Approval of the August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Dr. Friedgood made a motion to approve minutes from the August meeting and Kristin Wells 2nd the motion.

## **Summary of Discussion**

**Letter to Board of Pharmacy** 

The group reviewed the letter that was to be sent to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy by Dale Todd. Corrections were made and the group wanted to highlight several key areas:

- 1. The need to do a better job of monitoring and enforcing rules against out of state pharmacies.
- 2. All complaints should be monitored and logged.
- 3. We also believe that it would be beneficial to provide more educational support to staff on the issue of generic medications and the challenges and risks that epilepsy patients can face when they are switched between generic medications. A thorough understanding of this problem will assist front line investigators when evaluating complaints and educating pharmacists when problems may arise.

Dale will make the necessary changes and forward the letter.

General Discussion on past legislative efforts

Therese Harms from Advocacy Strategies was asked to shed light on past efforts in Iowa to pass Patient Safety Education. She told that group that there has been several efforts in the past but that it has always has stiff opposition from Pharmacists. She mentioned that the Patient Safety Task Force was an outgrowth of those efforts and was please at the level of communication and discussion she was seeing from the group.

# **Next Meeting**

It was mentioned that we should work to invite members of the insurance industry to our meeting. Many physicians are having problems getting their patients the appropriate prescription and are spending significant time and costs on the phone and doing paperwork to get approval. By improving our relationships and the understanding of challenges with generic medications in the insurance industry we hope to improve the outcomes for epilepsy patients.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM