

Department of Family Medicine May Meeting Minutes

Date: May 9, 2025

Time: 7:00am

Attendees: Dr. Sangita Pillai; Dr. Christen Fragala; Dr. Raymond Lewis; Dr. Joseph Dulac; Dr. Cara Marshall; Dr. Jessica Fournier; Dr. Jennifer Wolf; Dr. Majed Abbas; Dr. Marian Younge; Dr. Emelyn Molato; Dr. Catherine Trinh; Dr. Patrick O'Neil; Dr. Namita Tiwari; Dr. Chong So; Ashley Adams, RN, Quality Improvement Specialist; Maxine Miller

- **Call to Order** Sangita Pillai, MD
Dr. Pillai called the meeting to order at 7:00am.
- **Approval of Minutes**
All approved of the previous minutes of February.
- **New Business**
 - Dr. Pillai discussed that she will no longer be sending the Medical Executive Committee summaries. Per Dr. Galvin, the chiefs should digest the summaries and share any important information at the next Department meeting.
 - Blue Cross Blue Shield will be changing their coverage for GLP-1 medications. Starting on January 1, 2026, coverage for GLP-1 medications will be changing and only covering those with type 2 diabetes. They will no longer cover the medication for weight loss benefits.
 - The new language testing has launched and is being offered for faculty to take at not cost. ALTA language testing offers a CCLA test and requires a score of at least 80% to pass and receive certificate.
 - The test is mandatory for those working in the hospital setting but optional for private practices.
 - Radiologists are available for consultation on whether contrast is necessary for diagnostic imaging.
 - The radiology team can be reached via Tiger Text. They are listed as "L Diag Rad" for main campus and "L Diag Rad on Call" for after hours.
 - Dr. Pillai presented the group a slide show with pictures of her experience in Cambodia. People can apply for up to \$2000 to help fund trip to Cambodia and help work at Lowell General Hospital's sister hospital.
 - She also informed the group a couple of items that they are in need of at the clinic in Cambodia which include a handheld ultrasound, handheld EKG, and ongoing point of care.
- **Old Business**
 - a. **Med Exec Committee**



- Updates on the language proficiency testing were discussed earlier in the meeting.
- b. Labor and Delivery Committee**
 - The committee is working on bladder protocol.
- c. Cancer Committee**
 - Please let Dr. Pillai know if you are interested in attending the Cancer Committee meetings.
- d. Credentials Committee**
 - No updates given at this time.
- e. Morbidity and Mortality Council**
 - No updates given at this time.
- f. Perinatal Committee**
 - Dr. Lewis said the last meeting was in March. About eight policies were reviewed and approved.
- g. MCH Updates**
 - Postpartum depression is being discussed as two week post-op appointment.
 - Perinatal Mental Health is receiving an award. All nurses were educated on how to discuss mental health at discharge.
 - Breastfeeding rates were up to 56%.
- h. DEI Update**

Dr. Lewis gave the following updates:

 - OB Equity Group is doing A colab with DEI. These meetings are held 12-1:30 via zoom.
 - There will be a mentorship program event on June 9, 2025.
- i. Family Medicine Residency Program**
 - Dr. Marshall told the department that that starting in Spring 2026, six residents will be matched.
- j. Bridge Clinic**
 - Dr. O'Neil discussed that they are seeing an increase of people using meth and that will probably continue to increase.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:00am.

Next Meeting:

Friday, June 13, 2025, 7:00AM via Zoom



Respectfully submitted,

Maxine Miller

Maxine Miller
Medical Staff Coordinator

Approved by:

Sangita Pillai, MD
Chief, Department of Family Medicine

Date

