

**Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council (PANSAC)**  
**FINAL DRAFT: Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 24, 2023**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform**  
**In Person Meeting Site: Texas Health and Human Services Commission**  
**John H. Winters Building, PHR, 1<sup>st</sup> FL**  
**701 West 51<sup>st</sup> Street**  
**Austin, TX 78751**

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome, roll call, and member introductions**

Presiding Officer, Ms. Kara Chasteen, called the Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council (PANS Council) meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. CST. Ms. Chasteen welcomed Council members and the public in attendance.

Ms. Kayla Cates-Brown, Advisory Committee Coordination Office (ACCO), Facilitator, with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announced the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ms. Cates-Brown conducted member roll call and announced the absence of quorum.

Table 1: The PANS Council member attendance at the Friday, February 24, 2023 meeting.

<b>MEMBER NAME</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>MEMBER NAME</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Dr. Joel B. "Brandon Brock D.N.P.	X		Dr. Larry Lewellyn M.D. (Ex-Officio)	X	
Ms. Kara S. Chasteen	X		Dr. Amy L. Offutt M.D.	X	
Dr. Anne Esquivel Ph.D.		X	Mr. Nathan Pullen		X
Ms. Lisa M. Formby	X		Honorable Representative Terry Wilson		X
Ms. Sarah Rosen Garrett		X	Vacant		
Dr. Suzanne K. Gazda M.D.	X		Vacant		
Ms. Lisa C. Hardy		X	Vacant		
Dr. Qazi U. Javed M.D.	X		Vacant		
Dr. Paula J. Kruppstadt M.D.	X		Vacant		
Ms. Sharon G. Lemons	X				

Yes: Indicates attended the meeting

No: Indicates did not attend the meeting

Ms. Chasteen introduced HHSC staff who provide support to the Council – Ms. Joy Borges, Associate Commissioner, Family Health Services; Mr. Jay Smith, Program Manager, ODPC; and Ms. Kynthia Brooks, Council Liaison.

**Agenda Item 2: Consideration of August 10, 2022, draft meeting minutes**

Ms. Chasteen announced that due to lack of quorum, this agenda item would be tabled for a future meeting.

### **Agenda Item 3: Committee Project Plan and Updates:**

Ms. Chasteen introduced Dr. Amy Offutt, M.D., who provided members with an update on the committee's activities and the potential development of the PANS provider referral list.

#### Highlights of the committee updates and member discussion:

##### **A. Clinical Awareness Committee:**

- PANS/PANDAS: The most recent focus is the creation of short, educational videos. These videos are organized by topic, and the committee is calling on volunteers from our council to assist in the recordings. The committee has decided to keep them short and concise, so they are easily viewed and utilized. That is the present work of the group.
- The committee is open to any suggestions for creating a referral list for the state of Texas. There are national organizations that have a physician finder or physician locator search, but few Texas clinicians are listed in the databases. The committee decided there wasn't a helpful physician locator resource for Texas families and needed to create a database of providers in Texas. All committee members were asked if they would participate on this referral list if it fit their job, and the committee is still looking for more providers.
- Another strategy for creating a larger audience for clinicians and others who can be helpful to these families and kids in crisis would be to provide a partnership or educational role with a physician interested in learning more about PANS/PANDAS conditions. Dr. Offutt began a partnership with a few doctors around the state who want to learn more.
- The committee's focus is not only on the PANS educational videos, but also on the referral list.

Ms. Chasteen introduced Dr. Suzanne Gazda, M.D., who provided members with an update on the committee's activities.

##### **B. Diagnosis and Treatment Committee:**

- Dr. Gazda said the committee had no additional updates. She continued, they are following up on several targeted items on their project list, most have been completed.

##### **C. Education and Outreach Committee:**

- Ms. Kara Chasteen provided members with an update on the committee's activities and the potential creation of the PANS Awareness Survey.
- Ms. Chasteen shared most of the committee's work overlaps with Clinical Awareness Committee's work, however some projects are done separately.
- Ms. Chasteen shared that the educational flyers were approved and available on the PANS HHS website. The resources are printable flyers which help parents speak with teachers and administrators to understand PANS/ PANDAS. The flyers are distributed through various associations such as the School Nurse Association. Mr. Nathan Pullen is working with the Texas Education Agency for distribution through other areas.
- Health and Human Services printed approximately 9,000 flyers and distributed them to schools and stakeholders.
- The committee is also working on the PANS educational videos with Dr. Offutt and the Clinical Awareness Committee. The committee is creating a PANS Awareness survey as well as several committee members are speaking at schools and conferences to bring PANS awareness.

- Ms. Chasteen acknowledged Ms. Kynthia Brooks and Mr. Jay Smith for distributing PANS flyers during several conferences and events.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Health and Human Services – Ethics Presentation**

Ms. Chasteen introduced Mr. David Reisman, Chief Ethics Officer, HHSC, who provided members with an Ethics presentation.

##### Highlights of the presentation and member discussion:

- **Advisory Committee members:**
  - May not claim or appear to represent HHSC or the committee in Legislative or advocacy activity without approval from the committee’s presiding officer and HHSC Ethics Office in coordination with HHSC Government and Stakeholder Relations.
  - Are not prohibited from discussing a report that has been formally adopted by the specific committee they represent, or from representing themselves or other non-state agency entity in the legislative or advocacy process.
  - Shall disclose all direct personal or financial interests in a motion under consideration, and recuse themselves from any deliberations or decisions on that matter.
  - Penal Code § 36.07: may not accept payment for services that are requested because of the members’ title or position on the committee.
  - Conflicts of Interest: should not be in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.
  - Penal Code § 36.02: Bribery.
  - Open Meetings Act and Public information Act trainings are required.
  - May not disclose confidential information – HIPPA.
  - Miss use of government property is not allowed.
  - Prohibition from lobbying – may not extend state appropriations to advocate for or against any bill or measure.
  - Are subject to ethics laws contained in chapters 36 and 39 of the Penal Code.
- Mr. Reisman told the Council to contact him if there are any questions and thanked them for serving on the PANS Advisory Council.

#### **Agenda Item 5: HHS Family Health Services and the Office of Disability Prevention for Children (ODPC) Updates**

Ms. Chasteen introduced Mr. Jay Smith, Program Manager, ODPC, who provided members with updates from the HHS FHS and ODPC divisions.

##### Highlights of the update and member discussion:

- Mr. Smith highlighted many of the accomplishments of the Council:
  - Since November 2020, The Council has been involved with pane presenting during the Office of Disability Prevention for Children’s (ODPC) Annual Conference.
  - Assisted in the design and distribution of the PANS education flyers.

- Assisted in the creation and updates of the PANS webpage that includes the PANS flyers, annual reports and PANS Advisory Council meeting information.
- ODPC's landing page contains PANS information.
- ODPC's Resource Guide was updated in 2023 with the addition of the PANS information.
- Participation in promotion of PANS/PANDAS Awareness Day, October 9<sup>th</sup> by facilitating the obtaining of the Governors Proclamation, PANS Webinars, social media postings and HHS website articles.
- Future PANS initiatives: Provider list, educational videos, continuation of flyer distribution, 2023 ODPC conference participation, annual Legislative report, 2023 PANS Awareness Day promotion.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Public comment**

Ms. Cates-Brown announced that no written public comment was submitted, no one registered to provide oral public comment and there were no requests on-site to provide public comment.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Action items, topics for staff or member follow-up, and agenda topics for next meeting**

Ms. Chasteen introduced Mr. Jay Smith and Ms. Kynthia Brooks to provide a review of future agenda topics and action items.

#### Highlights of action items, agenda topics for the next meeting and member discussion included:

- Ms. Brooks announced the next scheduled PANS Council meeting will be May 10, 2023 at 9 a.m.
- Agenda topic for next meeting: Consideration of August 10, 2022 meeting minutes.
- Reminder that members need to complete the Open Meetings Act training every five years.
- Continue updates to the PANS Council webpage.
- Continue to work on the evaluation survey results which will be posted to the PANS webpage.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Adjourn**

Ms. Chasteen provided closing remarks, thanked Council members, staff, and members of the public for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m. CST.

Below is the link to the archived video recording of the February 24, 2023, Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council (PANSAC) meeting that will be available for viewing approximately two years from the date the meeting was posted on the website and based on the HHSC records retention schedule.

[Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council](#)