

CIRM Policy Enhancements

The policy enhancement history dates back to the National Academy of Sciences presentation of policy papers for their Dec 6 – 7, 2004 workshop at their Irvine, California facility. National Academy conflict proposals, like appointing only out of state scientists and physicians scientists to our scientific peer review committee (adopted in February), have been adopted in the board meetings from January through May. Similarly, National Academy “open” advisory group models were adopted in the period from March (Sheehy and Serrano Sewell standards proposal) through May (Friedman facilities proposal). The timeline that follows outlines, however, only the detailed steps on issues of legislative interest covered by the “Current Policy Enhancements of June 2005.”

Timeline for Current Policy Enhancements

- June 3 Meeting in Sacramento organized and chaired by David Panush of President Pro Tempore Don Perata’s staff. The meeting was attended by Dr. Zach Hall, James Harrison, and Robert Klein (representatives of the ICOC and CIRM), Senate Judiciary Committee staff, State Treasurer’s Office staff, Legislative Counsel, Orrick-Harrington staff, Office of Senator Runner staff, and Senate Health Committee staff (Peter Hansel). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the point-by-point details in SCA 13, and to discuss alternative language and approaches to address the issues. Mr. Panush suggested that the ICOC could act in good faith to strengthen provisions by voluntarily adopting enhanced policies. A substantial discussion around IP and accessibility to treatments occurred. There was an expectation that this area would be difficult to resolve because of its complexity. The California Council on Science and Technology report on IP was identified as an important source of near term input.
- June 4-5 The policy enhancements document was created over the weekend by James Harrison, Zach Hall, and Bob Klein.
- June 6 The ICOC meeting was held in Sacramento where draft voluntary policy enhancement package was presented. Senator Ortiz and Senate Health Consultant Peter Hansel attended the meeting and received a copy of the policy enhancements. Senator Ortiz stated our proposed policies went beyond her position on mandatory divestment. The board approved the creation of a new Legislative Subcommittee charged with 1) reviewing the policy enhancements in more detail and 2) making recommendations to the full board on these proposals.

July 12, 2005 ICOC Meeting
Agenda Item # 10

- June 6 – 15 Recruitment of members of Legislative Subcommittee, determination of date for meeting, and creation of subcommittee commission statement and agenda.
- June 10 Legislative Subcommittee agenda posted on the CIRM website. Meeting agenda and supporting documents emailed to subcommittee members.
- June 16 Notice of Legislative Subcommittee meeting, with link to the agenda and a copy of the draft policy enhancements emailed to entire state Senate.
- June 17 Supplemental refined policy enhancement document written by Zach Hall emailed to all subcommittee members.
- June 19 Zach Hall completes 50+ calls to Grants and Standards Working Group Members to confirm acceptance and willingness to serve under proposed policy enhancements.
- June 20 Meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee. The subcommittee reviewed all suggested policy enhancements and discussed each item in detail. Substantive changes were made in each section, and each section was approved. All votes were unanimous with the exception of the conflict of interest policy for Working Group members, which was approved by a 9 to 1 vote (with one additional member Not Voting).
- July 12 Consider policy enhancements and creating of an IP Task Force addressing affordability of therapies and residual issues not yet covered.