

(vii) one representative who is a health care consumer and a family member or caretaker of an adult with an autoimmune disease;

(viii) one representative who is a health care consumer and a family member or caretaker of a child with an autoimmune disease;

(ix) one representative of a patient advocacy organization that represents people with a specific autoimmune disease;

(x) one representative of an advocacy organization that represents people with pain associated with autoimmune disease; and

(xi) one representative of an advocacy organization that represents people with mental health issues related to health problems.

(c) The members of the Task Force shall elect the chair from among the members of the Task Force.

(d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) identify the costs of autoimmune disease that have been incurred by the State and study potential ways to reduce the costs;

(2) identify benefits to the citizens of the State of research and medical work conducted ~~at the National Institutes of Health, the University of Maryland Medical Center, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System in Maryland~~ on autoimmune disease and study ways to improve the benefits to the public and the professional health community;

(3) identify the services available in the State for people with autoimmune disease and the gap in services, including duplication and fragmentation;

(4) study the level of coordination or lack of coordination among State agencies, State health services, and private health services;

(5) identify the need for training on autoimmune disease for State and local health departments and explore collaboration with State universities and the National Institutes of Health to implement such training;

(6) identify ways for the local health departments to integrate the most advanced autoimmune disease diagnostic techniques and treatments into their health services;