

**Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Meeting Minutes  
February 4th, 2008**

**Members Present:** Albert Samuelson, Patricia Churchill, Cheryl Huber, Norman Byers, Carrie Sorenson, Todd Twogood, Greg Pfister, Bob Treitline, Kim Krohn, Jeffrey Hostetter, John Savageau, Scott Setzepfandt and Carlotta McCleary.

**Medicaid Pharmacy Department:** Brendan Joyce, Gary Betting

**HID Staff Present:** Candace Rieth

**Members Absent:** Leann Ness

Chairman, C. Huber, called the meeting to order at 1:03pm. C. Huber asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting. N. Byers moved that the minutes be approved and P. Churchill seconded the motion. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the minutes, which passed with no audible dissent.

**Budget Update**

B. Joyce made available to the Board a graph that showed North Dakota brand and generic utilization over time. In January 1997, 50% of the ND Medicaid scripts were brand and 50% were generics. Currently, 29% of scripts are brand and 71% are generic. One point on the graph was identified as the implementation of brand name co-pays of \$3.

**Legislative Update**

B. Joyce provided the Board a copy of his testimony to the Human Services Legislative Committee.

**Conflict of Interest**

The Governor's office has asked the Department of Human Services to have the DUR Board adopt a conflict of interest policy that would require members to disclose financial relationships with drug companies and recuse themselves from voting, in some cases. At the December meeting, Chair C. Huber asked the DUR members to show the draft to their employers'. J. Hostetter had recommendations from the legal counsel at his place of employment. After much discussion, an additional check box was added that states: I have the potentially perceived conflict of interest in which the appearance of a conflict of interest may arise, yet no conflict of interest exists. This will allow DUR members to list occasions when a perceived conflict exists.

**Policy and Procedures**

A proposed policy for Pharma contact of DUR Board Members was included for the Board members' review. Pharma means all pharmaceutical companies (e.g. brand, generic, mixed brand and generic, biologic, etc.) A motion was made by N. Byers to adopt the Pharma contact of DUR Board Members policy. J. Hostetter seconded the motion. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the policy, which passed with no audible dissent.

B. Joyce discussed the ND Medicaid DUR Board Procedures. These will be reviewed on an annual basis and will include the above policy concerning DUR Board Contact by Pharma.

**Scope of DUR in other State Medicaid Programs**

Brendan shared what other State Medicaid Programs review on a yearly basis.

WI	57-60 classes
MD	57 classes
IL	66 classes
RI	44 classes
NY	48 classes
MT	56 classes

AK 57 classes  
AR 22 classes  
CT 44 classes

The Department would like to thank all of the members that serve on the DUR Board. The last several meetings have been long, but thankfully the North Dakota Board is not required to review 20 – 60 drug classes a year.

### **Ophthalmic Review**

At the December meeting, a motion and second was made to remove Vigamox and Zymar from the prior authorization process. The Sanford guide lists Vigamox and Zymar as the treatment of choice (along with polymixin/trimethoprim) for conjunctivitis. The initial reason for the prior authorization was the potential for resistance. The Department would agree to lift the PA on Zymar and Vigamox as long as the Board understands that if a clinical study shows that these agents contribute to MRSA, these agents will automatically regain prior authorization status. T. Twogood modified his original motion to include that if the evidence of MRSA develops with Vigamox or Zymar, the Department will be able to place these agents on prior authorization. Motion was seconded by K. Krohn. Chair, C. Huber called for public comment regarding the ophthalmic review. No public comments were made. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the motion, which passed with two audible dissents. A motion was made by T. Twogood to place Azasite and Iquix on prior authorization. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the motion, which passed with no audible dissent.

### **Antipsychotic Review**

B. Joyce reviewed antipsychotic information with the Board. Along with the low dose issue, the Department would like the Board to review alternative dosage forms of the antipsychotics such as zydis, soltabs, follow along products and injectables with large price differences. There was no public comment. For the next meeting, information will be provided on major issues surrounding the antipsychotics such as poly-pharmacy, low dosages and special formulations.

### **Yearly Review of Prior Authorization**

Once a year, the Board reviews products that were previously placed on prior authorization. This allows the Board a chance to review the prior authorization forms and criteria. Actoplus Met, Antihistamines, Brand Name NSAID/COX2s, PPIs and Revatio were reviewed. No action was taken regarding Actoplus Met, PPIs and Revatio forms or criteria. A motion was made by P. Churchill to remove the age restriction on Antihistamines. J. Savageau seconded the motion. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the motion which passed with no audible dissent. A motion was made by J. Hostetter to remove the age exemption on Brand Name NSAID/COX2s. G. Pfister seconded the motion. Chair, C. Huber, called for a voice vote to approve the motion which passed with no audible dissent.

### **Criteria Recommendations**

The recommended RDUR criteria enclosed in the packet were developed from product information provided by the manufacturers and usually are consistent with new indications, new drugs added, new warnings, etc. These proposed criteria will be added to the current set of criteria, and will be used in future DUR cycles. A. Samuelson moved to approve the new criteria and P. Churchill seconded the motion. C. Huber called for a voice vote and the motion passed with no audible dissent.

The next DUR board meeting will be April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008. C. Huber made a motion to adjourn the meeting and C. Sorenson seconded. Chair C. Huber adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm.