

Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2015

Members Present: John Savageau, Russ Sobotta, Tanya Schmidt, Laura Schield, Katie Kram, Wendy Brown, Michael Quast, Leann Ness

Members Absent: James Carlson, Steve Irsfeld, Jeffrey Hostetter, Carlotta McCleary, Michael Booth, Peter Woodrow

Medicaid Pharmacy Department: Brendan Joyce, Gary Betting, Alexi Murphy

J. Savageau called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Chair J. Savageau asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. W. Brown moved that the minutes be approved, and L. Schield seconded the motion. Chair J. Savageau called for a voice vote to approve the minutes. The motion passed with no audible dissent.

DUR Board member terms:

B. Joyce acknowledged J. Savageau and L. Ness and their work on the ND DUR Board. This meeting will be their last, due to term limits. J. Savageau made a motion to nominate W. Brown to serve as the new DUR Board chair. L. Schield seconded the motion. The motion passed with no audible consent.

Department update:

B. Joyce introduced the new pharmacist working in his department, Alexi Murphy. A. Murphy was hired to oversee the e-PA initiative. The e-PA program will go live in the 3rd quarter, 2015.

The new bill regarding Medication Therapy Management (MTM) passed and will start January, 2016. The MTM program will be used to manage many disease states, including patients with Hepatitis C.

SB2043 addressing supplemental rebates was approved. This bill allows the department to negotiate additional rebates from drug manufacturers and join a multi-state supplemental drug rebate pool. The addition of supplemental rebates will help with the rapidly-increasing drug spend in large part due to specialty medications. The DUR Board will continue to be involved in the drug/class reviews to aid in this process.

Second reviews

A motion and second were made at the March meeting to place Otezla, Xtoro, Hemangeol, Lemtrada, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis agents, GLP-1 receptor agonist agents, and topical therapies for onychomycosis on prior authorization. The topics were brought up for a second review. K. Bergstresser, representing Celgene spoke regarding Otezla. The motion passed with no audible dissent.

Plan for implementation/changes to narcotic quantity limit

B. Joyce presented information provided by the ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation showing issues that are faced by the agency in Bismarck/Mandan, Jamestown/Valley City, Grand Forks, Fargo, Minot, Williston, Devils Lake and Dickinson. B. Joyce reviewed edits that will be implemented. The board agreed with the edits.

Concurrent use of narcotics and benzodiazepines

A. Murphy presented data showing patients taking concomitant therapy with benzodiazepines and narcotics. A. Murphy reviewed a suggested plan for drug-drug edits that will be implemented over 4 phases. The board recommended a quality improvement effort (handouts, education) and to implement quantity limits on the benzodiazepines.

Cholesterol lowering drugs review

B. Joyce reviewed cholesterol lowering drugs (including the PCSK9 inhibitors) with the board. A motion was made by L. Schield to place the new agents coming to market on prior authorization with a failure of statins. T. Schmidt seconded the motion. There was no public comment. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Muscle relaxant review

A. Murphy reviewed muscle relaxant information with the board. A motion was made by M. Quast to allow the department to prior authorize carisoprodol and manage the muscle relaxant class as a whole. The motion was seconded by K. Kram. There was no public comment. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Injectable anticoagulants review

B. Joyce reviewed injectable anticoagulants. This is the first class the board will review for supplemental rebates. A motion was made by M. Quast to allow the department to manage the class of injectable anticoagulants through prior authorization. The motion was seconded by J. Savageau. There was no public comment. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Akynzeo review

B. Joyce reviewed Akynzeo with the board. K. Kram made a motion to place Akynzeo on prior authorization. M. Quast seconded the motion. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Nuessa review

B. Joyce reviewed Nuessa with the board. There was no public comment. K. Kram made a motion to place Nuessa on prior authorization. T. Schmidt seconded the motion. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Cholbam review

B. Joyce reviewed Cholbam with the board. There was no public comment. L. Schield made a motion to place Cholbam on prior authorization. K. Kram seconded the motion. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Criteria recommendations

The recommended RDUR criteria enclosed in the packet were developed from product information provided by the manufacturers and are usually 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. K. Kram moved to approve the new criteria and T. Schmidt seconded the motion. Chair J. Savageau called for a voice vote. The motion passed with no audible dissent.

The next DUR Board meeting will be held September 2 in Bismarck. L. Schield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. W. Brown seconded. The motion passed with no audible dissent. J. Savageau adjourned the meeting.