

DRUG REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) MEETING MINUTES

November 10, 2021

DRC Meeting ZOOM Webinar

Board Members Present

Melissa Max, Pharm. D.
Daniel Pace, M.D.
Chadwick Rodgers, M.D.

Medicaid Staff Present

Cindi Pearson, Pharm. D., Chair

Magellan Staff Present

Lynn Boudreaux, Pharm. D.
Karen Evans, P.D.
Lesley Irons, Pharm. D.

Board Members Absent

3 pharmacist positions vacant
Laurence Miller, M.D.

PASSE Members Present

Barry Fielder, Pharm. D.
Shannon Burke, Pharm. D.
Lauren Jimerson, Pharm. D.
Turkesia Robertson-Jones, Pharm. D.

Meeting held virtually by ZOOM Webinar. All committee members, Medicaid staff, and Dr. Boudreaux were considered panelists. A quorum was present, and the Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Public meeting was recorded. All virtual attendees were muted.
- b. Committee members and DHS staff were able to speak at any time.
- c. Robert's Rules of Order were used to conduct business.
- d. Voting on motions was performed by roll call.

II. SPEAKERS

Dylan Bassett, Pharm. D.—Pierre Fabre Pharmaceuticals
Hemangeol®

III. UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS OR GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1) Chair read the Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest Statement. Chair took verbal confirmation from Drs. Pace, Max, and Rodgers. No conflicts were declared by the committee members, Dr. Boudreaux, or chair.
- 2) Update on meeting location—No decision has been made for the February 2022 meeting, but a meeting room is available in the DHS Donaghey South building if needed.
- 3) New Empower pharmacist—Tyler Earley, Pharm. D.
- 4) New CareSource pharmacist—Turkesia Robertson-Jones, Pharm. D.
- 5) Meeting minutes for the August 2021 DRC meeting were discussed.
Motion by Dr. Rodgers to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Dr. Pace; All members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.
- 6) Update on PDL implementation from August 2021 DRC meeting and update from October 2021 DUR meeting:

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- a. **PDL updates were effective 10/1/2021**—Alzheimer’s agents, benign prostatic hyperplasia agents, hemorrhoidal preparations, opiate dependence treatments (oral buprenorphine), skeletal muscle relaxants
- b. **DUR PA manual review drugs were effective immediately:** Brexafemme®, Rezurock™, Bylvay™, Aemcolo™, Welireg™, treatment of Hidradenitis Suppurativa, and Synagis®
- c. **DUR POS edits:** IVIG, quantity edits for antiepileptic meds, and dose optimization

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1) ANTICONVULSANTS—postponed until February 2022

2) ANTIPARKINSON’S AGENTS

Antiparkinson’s agents’ class will be a new class for the PDL. Chair provided information on PD, approval criteria for all meds in this class (pramipexole ER, ropinirole XL, rotigotine patch, Nourianz™, Inbrija™, Ogentys™, and Kynmobi™), and list of meds divided into mechanism of action. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications for Antiparkinson’s agents
- b) Overview of Parkinson’s Disease
- c) Pharmacology
- d) National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Guidelines 2017
- e) Claims summary from 1/1/2020-12/31/2020

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Rodgers stated that none of the drugs are great, but if the patients are following the guidelines, they would use the levodopa combination products to start. Dr. Pace agreed that beginning with levodopa combination products seems like a fine option. Dr. Boudreaux stated that bromocriptine is an ergot-derived dopamine agonist. Dr. Rodgers stated they should try other products for 60-90 days before moving to bromocriptine. Dr. Max asked about entacapone. Dr. Boudreaux stated that the 2017 guidelines do not specifically discuss entacapone products, and new products like Nourianz were not discussed. Dr. Rodgers pointed out that there seems to be first line treatment and then treatment for side effects. We can have the first line agents as preferred and others nonpreferred to prevent more expensive medications from being used as first line for mild symptoms. Motion was made to choose levodopa combination products and other common first line options as preferred, have non-preferred options, and those with criteria that have DUR Board criteria already. Then we can defer to the cost committee.

ACTION:

Motion to approve best options for the state with multiple MOAs including levodopa combination products was made by Dr. Rodgers; seconded by Dr. Max. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

3) BETA BLOCKERS

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This review is a renewal of the beta blockers class. Chair provided information on indications for beta blockers and current list for all products on the PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications for beta blockers
- b) Beta blockers selectivity
- c) Overview of beta blockers
- d) Summary of evidence
- e) Claims summary from 1/1/2020-12/31/2020.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Pace stated that the current list looks pretty good. Preferred list has carvedilol, metoprolol, atenolol, sotalol which are most common in his practice. Motion was made to keep as current or most beneficial to the state. Dr. Max wanted to ensure there are preferred options from each subclass.

ACTION:

Motion to approve as current PDL status or best options for the state was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Max. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

4) NEUROPATHIC PAIN AGENTS

This review is a renewal of the neuropathic pain agents' class. Chair provided information on neuropathic pain, treatment options for neuropathic pain, criteria for Lyrica and nonpreferred topical analgesia, approval criteria for anticonvulsants and antidepressants, and current PDL list for all products. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications for neuropathic pain agents
- b) Overview of neuropathic pain
- c) Overview of diabetic neuropathy
- d) Overview of fibromyalgia
- e) Guidelines for treatment of PHN
- f) Guidelines for treatment of DPN
- g) Recommendations for treatment of fibromyalgia
- h) Claims summary from 1/1/2020-12/31/2020.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Pace asked if we planned on moving the pregabalin back to preferred. The Chair confirmed this plan from the DUR. Dr. Pace wanted to add pregabalin and stated the rest of the current preferred options are good. Dr. Rodgers stated that tricyclics are pretty common. Dr. Rodgers asked about opioids since they were listed on Dr. Boudreaux's presentation. Dr. Boudreaux stated that those guidelines were a little old, and newer guidelines do not recommend opioids for neuropathic pain. Chair asked about duloxetine since it is a preferred option in the antidepressant class. Dr. Boudreaux stated that preferred antidepressants have minimal criteria

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including quantity edits and therapeutic duplication restrictions. Chair suggested to add duloxetine to be consistent with the antidepressant list.

ACTION:

Motion to approve with amended recommendation was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Rodgers. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

5) SEDATIVE HYPNOTICS

This review is a renewal of the sedative hypnotics' class for both non-benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine medications. Chair provided information on the function of sedative hypnotics, medication classes used to treat insomnia, and current preferred drug list for all products with any current criteria. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications for sedative hypnotics
- b) Overview of insomnia
- c) Overview of non-24 hour sleep-wake disorder
- d) Pharmacology of benzodiazepines
- e) Pharmacology of "z-drugs"
- f) Pharmacology of melatonin receptor agonists
- g) Pharmacology of orexin receptor antagonists
- h) American Academy of Sleep Medicine Guidelines
- i) American College of Physicians 2016 Management of Insomnia Guidelines
- j) Claims summary from 1/1/2020-12/31/2020.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Pace stated that the list seems appropriate, and Dr. Rodgers agrees.

ACTION:

Motion to approve as current PDL status or best options for the state was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Rodgers. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

V. Chair provided schedule of future DRC meeting dates.

VI. Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:14 a.m.