


Arkansas Medicaid DUR Board Meeting Minutes

Date / Time:	April 15, 2026 8:30 AM– 12:30 PM Central		Location:	ZOOM webinar	
Chair:	Cindi Pearson, Pharm.D.		Reports:	Jeniffer Martin, Pharm.D. Prime Therapeutics Karen Evans, P.D. Prime Therapeutics Allison Sweeney, Pharm.D. Prime Therapeutics	
Attendance		Panelist (voting members)		Panelist (non-voting members)	Organization
		Geri Bemberg, Pharm.D.	X	Jann Rigell, Pharm.D.	ATC
	X	Clint Boone, Pharm.D.	X	Travis Gau, Pharm.D.	Empower
		Ashley Crawley, Pharm.D.	X	Lauren Jimerson, Pharm.D.	Summit
	X	Gabriella Douglass, Pharm.D.	X	Jessica Lawson, Pharm.D.	CareSource
		Trenton Dunn, Pharm.D.	X	Ifeyinwa Onowu, Pharm.D.	CareSource
	X	Lana Gettman, Pharm.D.	X	Cindi Pearson, Pharm.D.	DHS, DUR Chair
	X	John Dawson Irvin, M.D.	X	Cynthia Neuhofel, Pharm.D.	DHS pharmacy
	X	Michael Mancino, M.D.		Elizabeth Pitman	DHS DMS director
	X	Melissa Max, Pharm.D.		William Golden, M.D.	DHS advisor
		Brenna Neumann, Pharm.D.	X	Christopher Smith, M.D.	DHS advisor
	X	Daniel Pace, M.D.	X	Shane David, Pharm.D.	ADH advisor
	X	Paula Podrazik, M.D.	X	Karen Evans, P.D.	Prime Therapeutics
	X	Chad Rodgers, M.D.	X	Jeniffer Martin, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics
		Shailendra Singh, MBBS, FACP	X	Lesley Irons, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics
	Open M.D. position	X	Linsey Gillam, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics	
		X	Alyson Greenwood, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics	
		X	Allison Sweeney, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics	
		X	Brooke Owens, Pharm.D.	Prime Therapeutics	
Call to order	Meeting held virtually by Teams webinar. A quorum was present, and the chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.				
Public comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Claire Behringer, AGNP-C (Crinetics Pharmaceuticals)—PALSONIFY 2. Jennifer Schweiger, PharmD (Stealth Bio Therapeutics)—FORZINITY 3. Matt John, PharmD, MBA (Otsuka Pharmaceutical)—VOYXACT 4. Jason Demuth, PharmD, MBA (Agius Pharmaceuticals)—AQVESME 5. Jeffrey Baldwin, PhD (Amgen)—EVENITY 6. Hasib Bhojwani, MD (Collegium Pharmaceutical)—JORNAY PM 7. Kristi Cavaliere, PharmD, BCPS (Cytokinetics)—MYQORZO 				
Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All attending Board members had no conflict of interest. Dr. Pearson, Dr. Martin, Dr. Evans, Dr. Sweeney and Dr. Greenwood had no conflict of interest. 2. Quarterly provider newsletter—  Arkansas Medicaid Quarterly Newsletter , 3. New medications following the oncology policy <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. LIFYORLI (relacorilant) 25 mg and 100 mg capsule 4. System edits updates from previous meeting 5. Update on Wegovy tablets and Leqvio (no vote required) 				
PAD monograph	The PAD Subcommittee approved PAD monograph updates during the March 11 th meeting. The medications included Vyvgart/Vygart Hytrulo, Rebrevant/Rebrevant Faspro, Opdivo Qvantig, Keytruda, and Cerezyme. The DUR Board voted to give the final approval of the monograph updates as presented.				

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	<p>The motion was made by Dr. Rodgers; second by Dr. Gettman. All voting members present voted for approval of the PAD monograph updates as presented. Motion passed. Updated monographs were posted online on 4/15/2026.</p>
Minutes	<p>Motion to approve the January 2026 DUR meeting minutes as presented was made by Dr. Mancino; second by Dr. Podrazik. All voting members present voted for approval of the minutes as written. Motion passed.</p>
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sweeney from Prime Therapeutics gave the fee-for-service beneficiary lock-in status, and Top 25 reports. She also presented RDUR criteria for voting for the next quarter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ May – 8035 Noncompliance with thyroid medications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7847 Noncompliance with osteoporosis medications ○ June –7729 Concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines ○ July –7982 Concurrent use of opioids and antipsychotics <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Max for the above criteria; second by Dr. Rodgers. All other members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sweeney from Prime Therapeutics provided a RDUR Outcomes Analysis from Q1-Q2 2025 interventions • Dr. Pearson presented the PASSE ProDUR report for October through December 2025 • Dr. Evans from Prime Therapeutics presented the FFS ProDUR report for January through March 2026
PDL Class Review	<p>1) <u>H₂ Receptor Blockers</u></p> <p>Dr. Martin presented a PowerPoint with the following information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Overview of medications with indications b) Treatment guidelines from the American College of Gastroenterology, American Gastroenterological Association Clinical Practice Update, and North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition/European Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition c) Claims summary from 1/1/2025-12/31/2025 <p>DISCUSSION:</p> <p>Dr. Irvin asked about pediatric patients and other patients that cannot swallow tablets. Dr. Rodgers noted that famotidine suspension was an option. Dr. Martin stated that the suspension could be made available for those under 7 years and NPO. Dr. Irvin has patients older than 7 years that have G tubes that would need the suspension. He approved of the edit. Dr. Douglass asked about cimetidine tablets for wart treatment. Dr. Pearson noted that if the cost committee makes cimetidine non-preferred, it would still be available with a PA and support in MicroMedex.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>Motion was made by Dr. Rodgers to have famotidine tablets as preferred and any other products based on cost committee recommendations and famotidine suspension available with swallow criteria; second by Dr. Irvin. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p> <p>2) <u>Thyroid Hormones</u></p> <p>Dr. Martin presented a PowerPoint with the following information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Summary of medications with therapeutics overview along with warnings b) FDA actions on unapproved thyroid medications c) Treatment guidelines from the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence, American Thyroid Association, and American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/American Thyroid Association d) Other treatment guidelines included American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology/American Thyroid Association, and National Comprehensive Cancer Network e) Claims summary from 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

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Dr. Pearson recommended to remove criteria for Adthyza and allow the PDL to determine coverage, and she recommended to keep the current criteria for Ermeza and Thyquidity.

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to defer to the cost committee for the preferred medication(s) with levothyroxine tablet being one of the preferred medications; second by Dr. Pace. Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to approve criteria as presented; second by Dr. Rodgers. All other members in attendance voted for the motions. Motions passed.

3) Octreotide Agents

Dr. Martin presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) Summary of medications with indications and dosing
- b) Treatment guidelines from the Acromegaly Consensus Conference, Pituitary Society Update - Acromegaly Management Guidelines, and Endocrine Society - Guidelines on Treatment of Acromegaly
- c) Other treatment guidelines included Endocrine Society – Cushing’s Syndrome/Pituitary Society Consensus Workshop and NCCN – Neuroendocrine and Adrenal Tumors/American Society of Clinical Oncology – Metastatic Well-Differentiated GEP-NETs
- d) Claims summary from 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Dr. Pearson presented updated criteria for all of the octreotide agents that would be covered as a pharmacy benefit which included Mycapssa, Sandostatin LAR Depot, Sandostatin Ampule, Bynfezia, Palsonify, Somavert, Signafor Ampule, and Somatuline Depot. The criteria was modified to be consistent with physician administered drug monographs.

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Max to make octreotide IR as preferred and defer to the cost committee for any other preferred medication(s); second by Dr. Podrazik. Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to approve criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motions. Motions passed.

4) Diuretics

Dr. Martin presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) Summary of medications
- b) Medications separated into classes by mechanism of action with treatment recommendations for each class
- c) Treatment guidelines for heart failure—American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/Heart Failure Society of America 2022 and American College of Cardiology 2023
- d) Treatment guidelines for hypertension—ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA 2017, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence 2023, and American Heart Association 2018
- e) Treatment guidelines for chronic kidney disease—Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes 2022 and American Diabetes Association Standards of Care 2026
- f) Treatment guidelines for cirrhotic ascites—American Association for the Study of Liver Disease 2021
- g) Claims summary from 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Dr. Pearson presented drafted criteria for two new products—Enbumyst and Lasix ONYU.

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	<p>DISCUSSION: Dr. Max mentioned that indapamide can impact glucose less than other agents. Dr. Martin recommended that we defer to the cost committee and make sure there is a preferred selection from each different type of diuretic. Dr. Max asked if we would be discussing Kerendia criteria separately. Dr. Pearson stated there are no recommended changes for that medication.</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Max to defer to the cost committee and make sure there is a preferred selection from each different type of diuretic; second by Dr. Irvin. Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to approve criteria as presented; second by Dr. Irvin. All other members in attendance voted for the motions. Motions passed.</p> <p>5) <u>Osteoporosis, Bone Resorption Suppression, and Related Agents</u></p> <p>Dr. Martin presented a PowerPoint with the following information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Summary of medications with mechanism of action, indications, and dosing b) Table highlighting guideline position, evidence, key notes, and safety for the reviewed medications c) Treatment recommendations including NCCN 2025 recommendations, American College of Rheumatology 2022 for glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis, and Paget’s Association 2019 d) Claims summary form 1/1/2025-12/31/2025 <p>Dr. Pearson presented draft criteria for all products under discussion.</p> <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Pace to make alendronate preferred and defer to the cost committee for any other preferred with criteria recommendations; second by Dr. Podrazik. Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to approve criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motions. Motions passed.</p> <p>6) <u>Classes without changes</u></p> <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Booth to remove discontinued medications and keep the current preferred options; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p>
<p>Disease States</p>	<p>1) <u>ALLERGIC FUNGAL RHINOSINUSITIS</u></p> <p>Dr. Pearson presented the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on allergic fungal rhinosinusitis (AFRS) • Dupixent indication, gross cost, and dosing • AFRS trial information • Draft criteria for AFRS <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to approve criteria as presented; second by Dr. Rodgers. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p>

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New
Business

1) CARDAMYST (etripamil) spray

Dr. Pearson provided the following on Cardamyst:

- Indication, gross cost, and dosing
- Contraindications and warnings
- Mechanism of action
- RAPID study clinical trial
- PSVT preventative treatment options
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Irvin asked how many doses per month will be approved. Dr. Pearson stated that max doses per month were not included in the draft criteria. With the concern for patients not seeking medical attention with excessive PSVTs, then a max per month makes sense. Dr. Irvin recommended a maximum of 6 canisters per month (3 claims).

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to approve criteria as amended; second by Dr. Irvin. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

2) REDEMPLO (plozasiran) injection

Dr. Pearson provided the following for Redemplo:

- Indication, gross cost with Tryngolza as comparison, dosing, contraindications/warnings and mechanism of action
- Clinical trial information
- Information on familial chylomicronemia syndrome
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

3) VOYXACT (sibeprenlimab) injection

Dr. Pearson provided the following for Voyxact:

- Indication, accelerated approval information, gross cost and cost comparisons with other IgAN medications
- Dosing, contraindications/warnings, and mechanism of action
- Visionary clinical trial information
- KDIGO treatment recommendations
- UpToDate® treatment recommendations
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

4) AQVESME (mitapivat) tablet

Dr. Pearson provided the following for Aqvesme:

- Indication, gross cost, and dosing.
- Contraindications/warnings and mechanism of action
- ENERGIZE AND ENERGIZE-T trial information
- Information on alpha- and beta-thalassemia
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Max to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Gettman. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

5) MYQORZO (aficamten) tablet

Dr. Pearson provided the following for MyQorzo:

- Indication, gross cost with comparison to Camzyos, and dosing
- Dosing adjustments required based on LVEF and Valsalva LVOT-G
- Contraindications/warnings and mechanism of action
- SEQUOIA-HCM trial information
- Information on obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Symptom treatment for oHCM from UpToDate®
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

6) FORZINITY (elamipretide hydrochloride) injection

Dr. Pearson provided the following Forzinity:

- Indication, gross cost, dosing, and dosing modification due to renal impairment
- Contraindications/warnings, mechanism of action, and TAZPOWER clinical trial information
- Information on Barth Syndrome
- Draft criteria

DISCUSSION:

No comments

ACTION:

Motion was made by Dr. Mancino to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Irvin. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.

7) ZYCUBO (copper histidinate) injection

Dr. Pearson provided the following for Zycubo:

- Indication, limitations of use, gross cost, and dosing
- Contraindications/warnings and mechanism of action

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical trials information • Information on Menkes disease • Draft criteria <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Mancino and Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p> <p>8) <u>PIVYA (pivmecillinam) tablet</u></p> <p><u>Dr. Pearson provided the following for Pivya:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indication with susceptible bacteria, gross cost, and dosing • Contraindications/warnings and mechanism of action • Clinical trial information • Composite response rates from all 3 trials • Draft criteria <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p> <p>9) <u>LOARGYS (pegzilarginase-nbln) vial</u></p> <p><u>Dr. Pearson provided the following for Loargys:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indication with information on accelerated approval, gross cost, and mechanism of action • Dosing • PEACE clinical trial information • Information on Arginase 1 Deficiency • Draft criteria <p>DISCUSSION: No comments</p> <p>ACTION: Motion was made by Dr. Irvin to accept the criteria as presented; second by Dr. Podrazik and Dr. Max. All other members in attendance voted for the motion. Motion passed.</p>
Board comments	None
Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 12:27 pm.