

**Minutes of the March 25, 2004  
Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board Meeting**

**Members Attending:** Tim Alford, M.D., Bob Broadus, RPh, Clarence Dubose, RPh, John Mitchell, M.D., Joe McGuffee, RPh., Andrea Phillips, M.D., Cynthia Undesser, M.D. Rudy Runnels, M.D.

**Members Absent:** Montez Carter, PharmD, Diana McGowan, RPh., Leigh Ann Ramsey, PharmD., Sara Weisenberger, M.D.

**Also Present:** Sam Warman, RPh., Lew Anne Snow, R.N., Kathleen Burns, R.N. – HID  
Warren Jones, M.D. Executive Director of Medicaid, Judith Clark, RPh, Director of Pharmacy Bureau, Terri Kirby, RPh., Phyllis Williams –DOM

Dr. Tim Alford called the meeting to order at 2:04pm  
Dr. Alford welcomed Dr. Rudy Runnels as the new member of the DUR Board.

**Approval of minutes of last meeting( November 20, 2003):** Bob Broadus made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the approval.

**Reports:**

**Update on Over-Utilization of Inhaled Beta-Agonists:**

Sam Warman (HID) presented a report requested by the DUR Board on the over-utilization of inhaled beta-agonists. During the time frame July 2003 through January 2004, a total of 247 recipients were identified as over-utilizing inhaled beta agonist. One criterion that is currently approved regarding the overuse of beta agonists has the days supply limit set at 60 days. Sam Warman suggested that by reducing the days supply from 60 days to 30 days, more beneficiaries could be identified as over-utilizing beta-agonists.

**The following recommendations were made:**

1. Continue to identify criteria exceptions and mail intervention letters when appropriate
2. Continue to record and evaluate prescriber responses
3. Communicate the findings to prescribers and pharmacy providers
4. Conduct additional retrospective evaluations targeting the over and under utilization of all agents used to treat asthma and respiratory diseases
5. To add criteria that also includes other respiratory disease states in addition to asthma
6. Send an intervention letter to the pharmacy provider of those beneficiaries identified in an effort to educate the beneficiaries in the correct method of using an inhaled beta agonist.

Judy Clark then asked if other states offered packets to be mailed to patients that are on these inhalers. HID will research this for the Board and report on this next meeting

Recommendation:

Bob Broadus made a motion that the Board accepts these recommendations. Dr. Undesser seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion

Dr. Alford paused the meeting at this point to introduce Dr. Warren Jones as the Executive Director of Medicaid. Dr. Jones stated that Governor Barbour has challenged the Division of Medicaid by to encourage savings in the pharmacy area. Dr. Jones stated with the help of everyone in the Pharmacy Bureau, we will be able to move closer to accommodating this request from the Governor. Dr. Jones then excused himself to attend other obligations.

**Update on the use of Generic Provider Id:**

Sam Warman presented an update on the use of the Generic provider ID from 10/01/2003 through 1/31/2004. 122 pharmacies were identified as using the generic IDs greater than 40% of their total Medicaid prescriptions. 74 pharmacies out of the 122 pharmacies had also been identified in the last data report dated 09/01/2003 thru 11/30/2003. No recommendations were made.

**Pharmacy Program Updates:**

Judith Clark reported that we do have a new executive director, Dr Warren Jones. The pharmacy Department understands that there will be possible changes in legislation as they are addressing many pharmacy issues this year. Mrs. Clark then presented a report regarding pharmacy expenditures for February 2004. Currently with the new Envision system new edits are available which are specific for age, gender and pregnancy. For example, if a medication is indicated for a specific gender, a claim will not go through for the opposite gender. Pay and report has been added to the pharmacy message instead of deny. Mrs. Clark stated that focused reviews will continue to be done in the pharmacy division.

**2003 RDUR Statistics Review:**

Lew Anne Snow presented a report on the regarding the distribution of cases for all 2003 RDUR statistics. This included the number of cases identified, the letters sent, physician replies and the physician reply rate by percent.

**Black Box Warning:**

Sam Warman presented black box warnings issued by the FDA concerning the following:

- Viramune (nevirapine) was the targeted drug noted at this meeting.

**Suggested Interventions:**

Sam Warman suggested that a specific category be targeted each quarter for RDUR interventions. He stated that by decreasing the volume of letters sent to the physician the physician reply rate would increase. Mr. Warman suggested hypertension and diabetes as two possible target areas. The response from the provider community remains very positive regarding the over- utilization profiles currently being sent to providers; therefore it was suggested that this continue to be a targeted intervention each quarter.

Recommendation:

A motion was made by Bob Broadus to accept hypertension, diabetes and over-utilization as the targeted areas for the next quarter. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of the motion

**Next Meeting Information:**

Dr. Alford reminded the Board of the next meeting scheduled for June 24, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

There being no other business, Dr. Alford asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dr. Undesser made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion.

All voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Health Information Designs, Inc.