

**MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID  
DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2020 MEETING**

<b>DUR Board Roster: State Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020)</b>	<b>Sep 2019</b>	<b>Dec 2019</b>	<b>Mar 2020</b>	<b>Jun 2020</b>
Lauren Bloodworth, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beverly Bryant, MD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rhonda Dunaway, RPh	✓	✓		✓
Tanya Fitts, MD		✓	✓	✓
Ray Montalvo, MD (Chair)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Holly Moore, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Janet Ricks, DO			✓	✓
Dennis Smith, RPh	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cheryl Sudduth, RPh	✓	✓		✓
James Taylor, PharmD	✓		✓	✓
Alan Torrey, MD	✓		✓	✓
Veda Vedanarayanan, MD	✓			
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>

**Also Present:**

**Division of Medicaid (DOM) Staff:**

Terri Kirby, RPh, CPM, Pharmacy Director; Cindy Noble, PharmD, MPH, DUR Coordinator; Gail McCorkle, RPh, Clinical Pharmacist; Carlos Latorre, MD, Medical Director; Drew Snyder, JD, Executive Director; Sue Reno, RN, Program Integrity; Jessica Tyson, OMAP;

**University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy - MS-DUR Staff:**

Eric Pittman, PharmD, MS-DUR Project Director; Kaustuv Bhattacharya, PhD, Research Assistant Professor - CPM;M;

**Conduent Staff:**

Lew Anne Snow, RN, BSN, Pharmacy Services Sr. Analyst, Mississippi Medicaid Project; Leslie Leon, PharmD, Clinical Pharmacist, Mississippi Medicaid Project;

**Change Healthcare Staff:**

Paige Clayton, PharmD, On-Site Clinical Pharmacist; Shannon Hardwick, RPh, CPC Pharmacist;

**Alliant Health Staff:**

Buddy Ogletree, PharmD, Clinical Pharmacist; Catherine Brett, MD, Clinical Director;

**MedeAnalytics:**

Chris Bryan, Account Manager, Client Services; Felicia Lobrano, RN, BSN, Senior Business Analyst;

**Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) Staff:**

Heather Odem, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy - Mississippi, UnitedHealthcare Community & State; Jenni Grantham, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy, Magnolia Health; Mike Todaro, PharmD, Vice President Pharmacy Operations, Magnolia Health; Trina Stewart, PharmD, Pharmacy Manager, Molina Healthcare;

**Visitors:**

Mandy Schnelten, Jazz Pharmaceuticals; Judith Clark, Consultant; Sharon Pennington, MS CAM; Spencer Sullivan, MS CAM; Kayla Douglas, MS CAM; Michael Chen, Aimmune Therapeutics; Michelle Shirley, Indivior; David Large, Biohaven Pharmaceuticals; Lorien Stringer, Avanir Pharmaceuticals; Robert Firnberg, Gilead; Phil Hecht, Abbvie; Mycah Wilson, Genentech; Sonya Powell, Janssen; Gene Wingo, Biogen; Stephanie Arnold, Greenwich Biosciences; Nole Mangine, Allergan/Abbvie; Gibby Rodriguez, Indivior; Brad Leiser, Mylan; Brad Clay, Novartis; Jeff Knappen, Spark; Brent Young, Global Blood Therapeutics; Mike Peoples, Lilly; Bruce Wallace, Azurity.

**Call to Order:**

Dr. Pittman called the meeting to order at 1:02pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting via Zoom.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Dr. Bloodworth moved to approve the minutes from the March 2020 DUR Board Meeting, seconded by Dr. Torrey, and unanimously approved by the DUR Board.

**Resource Utilization Review:**

Dr. Pittman presented the resource utilization report for January 2020 – March 2020. No abnormal shifts in drug categories were noted.

**Feedback and Discussion from Board:**

Dr. Pittman followed-up with the Board on their request to rerun the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) antiretroviral (ARV) adherence data that was presented at the March 2020 Board meeting to include beneficiaries less than 18 years. When the analysis was rerun, only 13 additional beneficiaries were identified. This additional data did not change the overall adherence numbers reported at the March 2020 Board meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Update on MS-DUR Educational Interventions:**

Dr. Pittman provided an overview of all DUR mailings that occurred March 2020 – May 2020. He pointed out the downward trend in the number of beneficiaries classified as provider shopping. MS-DUR also conducted a one-time mailing in May 2020 to providers that had prescribed tricyclic antidepressants to beneficiaries age < 25 years during the previous 6 months alerting them to the new age edit that is scheduled for implementation August 2020. This letter was mailed to 507 prescribers addressing 1,220 beneficiaries.

### **Special Analysis Projects:**

#### ***Sickle Cell Disease and New Pharmacologic Agents***

Dr. Sharon Pennington with the MS Center for Advanced Medicine (MS CAM) presented to the Board an overview of sickle cell disease and pharmacotherapy options. Dr. Pittman followed Dr. Pennington and presented results from MS-DUR's analysis of sickle cell disease in MS Medicaid. MS-DUR's report also included a forecast of potential candidates for treatment with either crizanlizumab (Adakveo) or voxelotor (Oxbryta). Following a robust discussion, the subsequent recommendations were proposed:

1. DOM should create manual prior authorization criteria for crizanlizumab and voxelotor for review/approval of appropriate use of these products.
2. The pharmacy programs (FFS and MCOs) should provide patient education on the role of hydroxyurea and encourage greater utilization among beneficiaries with sickle cell disease.
3. MS-DUR should expand the analysis to stratify sickle cell-related hospitalizations by the use of medications (hydroxyurea, Endari, or no preventive medications).

*Dr. Torrey motioned to approve the recommendations, seconded by Dr. Fitts, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

#### ***Cytokine and CAM Antagonist Utilization***

Dr. Pittman presented an overview report of the utilization of the agents in the cytokine and cell-adhesion molecule (CAM) antagonist category. Prescribing trends were analyzed, and the presence of target diagnosis information was noted. The cytokine and CAM antagonist class experienced a 20.7% increase in utilization from January 2018 until December 2019. This increase was largely due to a 33% increase in claims for Humira®. Although tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitors can be used to treat a broad array of disease states, target diagnosis information was absent in claims data for approximately 18-20% of new starts of Humira® and Enbrel® during the study period. Following a robust discussion by the board, the subsequent recommendations were presented:

1. DOM should implement an electronic PA edit to add a diagnosis check for utilization of TNF inhibitors in the Cytokine & CAM antagonists' category.
2. MS-DUR should continue to monitor this category of drugs to determine whether future step-therapy requirements would be appropriate, especially with the advent of biosimilar alternatives in this therapeutic category.

*Dr. Bloodworth motioned to approve the recommendations, seconded by Ms. Dunaway, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

### **Hepatitis C Treatment Overview**

Dr. Pittman presented an overview of Hepatitis C treatment among Medicaid beneficiaries since the introduction of direct acting antivirals (DAAs) in 2013. Descriptive characteristics of beneficiaries treated, pharmacologic regimens prescribed, and completion rates were presented. MS Medicaid treated 1345 beneficiaries with DAA therapy since 2013. Overall completion rates for DAA therapy across all pharmacy programs since 2013 was at 89.7%. Overall completion rates since Q4 2016 increased to 92% across all pharmacy programs with the utilization of patient management programs across all pharmacy plans. It was noted that although few beneficiaries were impacted, one area with frequent suboptimal completion rates was among those beneficiaries that switched pharmacy programs during DAA therapy. When examining beneficiaries requiring liver transplants, it appeared that treatment with DAA therapy reduced the proportion of Hep C positive beneficiaries receiving liver transplant during the study period. After discussion from the Board, the following recommendation was presented by MS-DUR:

1. MS-DUR recommended DOM restrict beneficiaries from switching pharmacy programs while taking DAA therapy if possible or develop some type of hand-off process for beneficiaries switching pharmacy programs to ensure continuity of care.

*Dr. Bloodworth motioned to approve the recommendation, seconded by Dr. Fitts, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

### **FDA Drug Safety Updates:**

Dr. Pittman presented FDA drug safety communications for April 2020 – June 2020.

### **Pharmacy Program Update:**

Ms. Kirby informed the Board that DOM is waiving prescription and medical copays when providers indicate treatment is for COVID-19 related treatment. She encouraged providers and pharmacists to be on the lookout for a notification of these changes. Ms. Kirby also informed the Board that the tricyclic antidepressant age edit recommended by the DUR Board would be implemented on August 1, 2020. Ms. Kirby acknowledged the DUR Board members completing their terms of service June 2020 (Ms. Rhonda Dunaway, Dr. Ray Montalvo, Dr. Holly Moore, and Mr. Dennis Smith). Dr. Veda Vedanarayanan also turned in his resignation from the Board. Ms. Kirby announced the upcoming retirement of Dr. Cindy Noble, DUR Coordinator, at the end of

June 2020 and recognized Dr. Noble for receiving the Hall of Fame Award by the Mississippi Pharmacist's Association.

**Miscellaneous:**

***2020 Meeting Dates/Times***

September 17, 2020

December 3, 2020

*\*Meeting times will remain at 1 pm.*

**Next Meeting Information:**

Dr. Pittman announced that the next meeting of the DUR Board will take place on September 17, 2020 at 1pm.

*Dr. Bloodworth motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 pm, seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

Submitted,

Eric Pittman, PharmD

Evidence-Based DUR Initiative, MS-DUR

**Meeting Location:** Woolfolk Building, 501 North West Street, Conference Room 145, Jackson, MS 39201. Update: Due to COVID-19 pandemic, meeting will be held virtually.

**Contact Information:** Office of Pharmacy:

Chris Yount, 601-359-5253; [Christopher.yount@medicaid.ms.gov](mailto:Christopher.yount@medicaid.ms.gov), or  
Jessica Tyson, 601-359-5253; [jessica.Tyson@medicaid.ms.gov](mailto:jessica.Tyson@medicaid.ms.gov)

Notice details:

**State Agency:** MS Division of Medicaid

**Public Body:** Drug Utilization Board (DUR) Meeting

**Subject:** Quarterly Meeting

**Date and Time:** June 11, 2020 at 1PM. Meeting will be held virtually.

**Description:** The Mississippi Division of Medicaid's Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board is a quality assurance body which seeks to assure appropriate drug therapy to include optimal beneficiary outcomes and appropriate education for physicians, pharmacists, and the beneficiary. The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board is composed of twelve participating physicians and pharmacists who are active MS Medicaid providers and in good standing with their representative organizations.

The Board reviews utilization of drug therapy and evaluates the long-term success of the treatments.

The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board meets quarterly.



## NOTICE DETAILS

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**State Agency:** Division of Medicaid

**Public Body:** Division of Medicaid

**Title:** Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting

**Subject:** Drug Utilization Review Board

**Date and Time:** 6/11/2020 1:00:00 PM

**Description:**

The Mississippi Division of Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board is a quality assurance body which seeks to assure appropriate drug therapy.

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### MEETING LOCATION

501 North West Street  
Jackson MS 39201

[Map this!](#)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

DOM Pharmacy Bureau  
6013595253  
dompharmacybureau@medicaid.ms.gov

### DOWNLOAD ATTACHMENTS

DFA Meeting notification 2020.docx  
Added 1/9/2020

### SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

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