MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID
DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2021 MEETING

DUR Board Roster: State Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)	**Jun 2020**	**Sep 2020**	**Dec 2020**	**Mar 2021**
Lauren Bloodworth, PharmD (Chair)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terrence Brown, PharmD	NA	NA	NA	✓
Patrick Bynum, MD	NA	NA	NA	✓
Rhonda Dunaway, RPh	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tanya Fitts, MD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Philip Merideth	NA	NA	NA	✓
Ray Montalvo, MD	✓	✓	✓	
Holly Moore, PharmD	✓	✓		✓
Janet Ricks, DO	✓	✓		✓
Cheryl Sudduth, RPh	✓	✓	✓	
James Taylor, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alan Torrey, MD	✓		✓	
TOTAL PRESENT**	**11**	**9**	**7**	**9**

*** Total Present may not be reflected by individual members marked as present above due to members who either resigned or whose terms expired being removed from the list.*

Also Present:

Division of Medicaid (DOM) Staff:
Terri Kirby, RPh, CPM, Pharmacy Director; Dennis Smith, RPh, DUR Coordinator; Gail McCorkle, RPh, Clinical Pharmacist; Chris Yount, MA, PMP, Staff Officer – Pharmacy; Mason Frantom, Data and Compliance Officer;

University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy - MS-DUR Staff:
Eric Pittman, PharmD, MS-DUR Project Director;

Conduent Staff:
Leslie Leon, PharmD, Clinical Pharmacist, Mississippi Medicaid Project;

Change Healthcare Staff:
Paige Clayton, PharmD, On-Site Clinical Pharmacist; Sarah Boydstun, PharmD, PA Pharmacist;

Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) Staff:
Heather Odem, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy - Mississippi, UnitedHealthcare Community & State; Jenni Grantham, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy, Magnolia Health;

Visitors:

Kimberly Clark, Viiv Healthcare; Brandon Cope, Otsuka; Jill Gran, Otsuka; Justin Simmons, Abbvie; Jason Swartz, Otsuka; Gene Wingo, Biogen; Stephanie Arnold, Greenwich Biosciences; Brian Berhow, Sunovion; Michelle Bessett, Biocodex; John Churnetski, Alexion; Kendra Davies, Greenwich Biosciences; Andrew Delgado, BMS; Todd Dickerson, Jazz Pharmaceuticals; Stanley Ferrell, SeaGen; Sharron Glass, Alimera Sciences; Chris Hartmann, Jazz Pharmaceuticals; Steve Kohn, Sobi; Anabelle Keohane, Sanofi Genzyme; Jeff Knappen, Spark Therapeutics; David Large, Biohaven; Chris Lauhoff, Genentech; Martin McNulty, Pfizer; Robert Pedrazza, Vertex; Cathy Prine-Eagle, Merck; Taryn Stinson, Jazz Pharmaceuticals; Wendy Williams, Supernaus; Diana Sedgwick; Dr. James Brock, UMC (guest presenter).

Call to Order:
Dr. Pittman called the meeting to order at 1:01pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting via Zoom.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Resource Utilization Review:
Dr. Pittman presented the resource utilization report for October 2020 – December 2020. Enrollment numbers continued to climb. The number of beneficiaries with pharmacy benefits was up 10.4% compared to December 2019. While enrollment numbers increased, the number of prescription fills decreased 13.6% compared to December 2019. The total dollars paid for prescriptions was slightly increased compared to that paid in December 2019. One other item of note was the substantial decrease in the utilization of neuraminidase inhibitors for the treatment of flu compared to prior years.

Feedback and Discussion from Board:
Dr. Pittman informed the Board that implementation of the proton pump inhibitor maximum days supply edit has been postponed due to supply concerns for alternative agents. Once supplies are stable, the edit will be implemented. However, an educational piece is still scheduled to be in DOM's upcoming March Provider Bulletin in anticipation of the edit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on MS-DUR Educational Interventions:
Dr. Pittman provided an overview of all DUR mailings and educational notices that occurred December 2020 – February 2021.

Special Analysis Projects:

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
Dr. James Brock provided an overview of HIV PrEP to the Board. Following Dr. Brock's presentation, Dr. Pittman reviewed the MS-DUR analysis of PrEP utilization in Medicaid between 2014 and 2020. It was noted that PrEP therapy is covered under Medicaid's UPDL and as part of the Family Planning Waiver for both males and females. Even with no restrictions to access, only 159 beneficiaries have been initiated on PrEP therapy since January 2014. In order for PrEP therapy to be effective in reducing incident HIV infections in Mississippi, more high-risk individuals need to be identified and initiated on PrEP therapy. The following recommendations were discussed:

1. The Division of Medicaid should conduct provider education on PrEP therapy to include:
    - Incidence rates for HIV infections in Mississippi;
    - Categories of individuals identified as being high-risk for acquiring HIV infection;
    - Preferred status of PrEP products on UPDL;
    - Inclusion of PrEP products as covered medications under the Family Planning Waiver for both males and females;
    - Need for more providers around the state to identify high-risk beneficiaries and prescribe PrEP.
    - Strategies to improve provider comfort and eliminate potential provider bias in prescribing PrEP.

2. MS-DUR to conduct future research related to PrEP utilization in the Medicaid population to include:
    - Compare sociodemographic, clinical, and social determinant of health characteristics between PrEP utilizers and those newly diagnosed with HIV infections;
    - Assess PrEP persistence patterns and predictors of PrEP persistence;
    - Assess geographical disparities in PrEP uptake and persistence;
    - Assess potential barriers to PrEP therapy (social stigma, provider stigma, adherence, lab monitoring, etc.).

The Board encouraged DOM to partner with state medical associations to disseminate education on PrEP. Following discussion, Ms. Dunaway made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bloodworth, and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the recommendations presented.

Epidiolex

Dr. Pittman provided a report describing the use of Epidiolex among Medicaid beneficiaries. Since its approval in 2018, utilization has steadily increased. Analyses indicated that while the number of beneficiaries being treated with Epidiolex appeared to stabilize beginning Q2/2020, costs associated with its use continued to climb. These increased costs could be associated with increased dosage ranges prescribed for beneficiaries. The following recommendation was presented:

1. In light of the apparent increase in the dosage ranges being prescribed, DOM should establish dosing limits based on the labeled maximum dose recommendations. Such limits would allow for clinical review through prior authorization for doses exceeding these limits.

Following a robust discussion, Dr. Taylor motioned to take no action at this time regarding dosing limits for Epidiolex. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bloodworth and unanimously approved by the Board.

Growth Hormone

Dr. Pittman reviewed a report on the utilization of growth hormone among Medicaid beneficiaries between 2018 and 2020. The vast majority of growth hormones are being prescribed for beneficiaries under the age of 18 years (97.6%). Although SmartPA criteria does not require a diagnosis edit for beneficiaries under 18 years, analysis showed that only 3.3% of beneficiaries under 18 years did not have an associated diagnosis present in medical claims data. Most beneficiaries receiving these agents had an associated diagnosis of growth hormone deficiency or short stature present in claims data. There does not appear to be any significant inconsistencies in the prescribing of growth hormone agents with regards to appropriate diagnoses. MS-DUR presented the following recommendation:

1. MS-DUR recommends extending Smart PA diagnosis requirements to all beneficiaries prescribed growth hormone agents.

Following discussion, Dr. Taylor motioned to approve the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Dunaway, and unanimously approved by the board.

FDA Drug Safety Updates:
Dr. Pittman presented FDA drug safety communications for October 2020 – December 2020.

Pharmacy Program Update:
Mr. Smith provided the Board with the following Pharmacy Program Updates:

- The PPI deprescribing edit will be delayed possibly until summer 2021 due to the limited availability of alternative agents.
- Omnipod insulin pumps will be available through POS beginning April 1, 2021.
- Medicaid will be transitioning to a new fiscal agent, Gainwell, in 2022 and has begun testing.
- CMS approved the State Plan Amendment #20-0013 in December 2020. Beginning March 1, 2021, pharmacists will be reimbursed an administration fee equal to that paid to primary care providers for administering vaccines. Additionally all vaccines recommended on CDC Immunization Schedules can be administered by pharmacy providers and billed on pharmacy claims. There will be no copay associated with these vaccines and they will not count toward monthly prescription limits.
- Covid Vaccine Administration Fee Schedules for pharmacist were implemented in December 2020.

Miscellaneous:
Remaining 2021 Meeting Dates/Times
June 10, 2021
September 16, 2021
December 9, 2021
**Meeting time will remain at 1 pm.*

Next Meeting Information:
Dr. Pittman announced that the next meeting of the DUR Board will take place on June 10, 2021 at 1pm.

Dr. Taylor motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:38 pm, seconded by Dr. Bloodworth, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Submitted,

Eric Pittman, PharmD
Evidence-Based DUR Initiative, MS-DUR

Meeting Location: Meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Please visit Medicaid.ms.gov and click on the Pharmacy Information link for further information.

Contact Information: Office of Pharmacy:
Chris Yount, 601-359-5253: Christopher.yount@medicaid.ms.gov, or
Jessica Tyson, 601-359-5253; 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: March 4, 2021; June 10, 2021; September 16, 2021; and December 9, 2021 at 1PM

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.

Drug Utilization Review Board

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March 4, 2021 DUR Board Meeting Information

The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board meets quarterly. Meetings are normally scheduled for room 145 at 1 p.m. in the Woolfolk Building, 501 North West Street, Jackson, MS. *Due to the current pandemic, meetings will be held virtually.*

March 4 DUR Zoom Meeting Link Information (link will be taken down 20 minutes after meeting start time to minimize disruptions to proceedings):

https://zoom.us/j/93257967440?pwd=aXJ4VGpseFFLTXJtNG9vTDFxbnluQT09

Meeting ID: 932 5796 7440

Passcode: 264082

1. Participants are required to join the meeting no less than 15 minutes prior to meeting start time.
2. All lines will be muted upon joining
3. Participants are expected to conduct themselves professionally.
4. Please join the meeting by entering your NAME & COMPANY NAME. You may enter this information after joining by selecting the RENAME option.

DUR Meeting Dates & Registration Information

2021 dates: March 4, 2021; June 10, 2021; September 16, 2021; and December 9, 2021.

Important Update: beginning July 1, 2021, pharmaceutical and industry members, vendors, and general public must register to attend. Registration will open thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date. Registrants will be emailed attendance link information the day before the meeting.

Pharmacy

- Pharmacy Home
- Drug Utilization Review Board
- Mississippi Preferred Drug List
- Prior Authorization
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
- Pharmacy Resources
- Pharmacy Reimbursement