

**MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID
DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD
MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 MEETING**

DUR Board Roster: State Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)	Dec 2020	Mar 2021	Jun 2021	Sep 2021
Lauren Bloodworth, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terrence Brown, PharmD	NA	✓		✓
Patrick Bynum, MD	NA	✓	✓	✓
Rhonda Dunaway, RPh	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tanya Fitts, MD	✓	✓		✓
Ray Montalvo, MD	✓		✓	✓
Holly Moore, PharmD		✓		✓
Janet Ricks, DO		✓		✓
Cheryl Sudduth, RPh	✓		✓	
James Taylor, PharmD (Chair)	✓	✓		✓
Alan Torrey, MD	✓		✓	
TOTAL PRESENT**	7	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; Todd Smith, MD, Medical Director;

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

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

Conduent Staff:

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

Change Healthcare Staff:

Paige Clayton, PharmD, On-Site Clinical Pharmacist; Shannon Hardwick, RPh, CPC Pharmacist; Sarah Boydston, PharmD, PA Pharmacist; Cheryl Rogers, 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; Mike Todaro, PharmD,

Vice President Pharmacy Operations, Magnolia Health; Trina Stewart, PharmD, Pharmacy Manager, Molina Healthcare;

Visitors:

Kimberly Clark, Viiv Healthcare; Brandon Cope, Otsuka; Natasha Dowd, Alkermes; Tracey Smalley, Amgen; Robert Greely, Biogen; Gene Wingo, Biogen; David Large, Biohaven; Andrew Delgado, BMS; Martin McNulty, Pfizer; Cathy Prine-Eagle, Merck; Wendy Williams, Supernaus; Brent Young, Global Blood Therapeutics; Michelle Shirley, Indivior; Mike Peoples, Lilly; Julie Hardie, Novo Nordisk; Carley Riehle, Takeda; Shawn Healey, Gilead; Chris Lauhoff, Genentech; Angela Daughtridge, Grifols; Monte McCrary, Leo Pharma; Keanna Dandridge, Novartis; Anabelle Keohane, Sanofi Genzyme; Steve Kahn, Sobi; Robert Pedrazza, Vertex; Kim Musick; Philip Merideth, MD; Cesar Cardenas, Jr., MD.

Call to Order:

Dr. Pittman called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting via Zoom.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Bloodworth moved to approve the minutes from the June 2021 DUR Board Meeting, seconded by Dr. Montalvo, and unanimously approved by the DUR Board.

Guest Presentation – CHAMP Program:

Dr. Philip Merideth provided the Board with an overview of the Child Access to Mental Health and Psychiatry Program. The program provides free, non-urgent, same-day telephone consults to Mississippi primary care providers who have questions about mental health care for patients < 21 years. The program is funded through a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant that will expire in September 2023. They are currently seeking sources of funding to continue this program once the grant expires.

Resource Utilization Review:

Dr. Pittman presented the resource utilization report for June 2021. Enrollment numbers continued to climb. The number of beneficiaries with pharmacy benefits was up 12.2% compared to June 2020. While enrollment numbers increased, the number of prescription fills also increased 22.2% compared to June 2020. One other item of note was the continued increase in the number of paid claims for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines that occurred during the second quarter of 2021. Dr. Pittman also pointed out a change that occurred in the way UHC reported certain encounter claims that has impacted the calculation of amounts paid resulting in values appearing artificially inflated. MS-DUR is currently working with DOM on a process to resolve this issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Co-chair:

Ms. Rhonda Dunaway volunteered to serve as Co-chair for SFY 2022 term.

A motion was made by Dr. Taylor to accept Ms. Dunaway as Co-chair, seconded by Dr. Bloodworth, unanimously approved by the Board.

Update on MS-DUR Educational Interventions:

Dr. Pittman provided an overview of all DUR mailings and educational notices that occurred June 2021 – August 2021.

Special Analysis Projects:

Immune Globulin Utilization

MS-DUR presented a report describing the utilization of immune globulin (IG) products among Medicaid beneficiaries between January 2017 and December 2020. Although there was a modest increase in the number of beneficiaries treated with IG between 2017 and 2020, the costs associated with the use of IG products increased 123% during the same time period. IG products can be utilized in treating a myriad of health conditions. There are disease state specific factors and appropriate patient dosing weight factors that should be considered when prescribing IG products. Considering the complexities associated with IG product use, close management of this drug class may be warranted.

The following recommendation was discussed:

1. MS-DUR recommended the Division of Medicaid consider moving all IG products on the UPDL to a manual prior authorization process.

Following a discussion, Dr. Montalvo made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bloodworth, and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the recommendation presented.

Influenza Vaccination and Treatment Update

MS-DUR presented a report summarizing influenza vaccination and treatment among Medicaid beneficiaries during the 2020/2021 influenza season. The report detailed flu vaccinations by age group, pharmacy plan, and whether the vaccine was administered in a pharmacy or medical setting. The report also confirmed an atypically low influenza activity season by a dramatic decrease of >95% in the number of beneficiaries treated, number of prescription claims, and the total cost associated with anti-influenza medications compared to prior years. This report for the DUR Board was for informational purposes only.

No action was sought as a result of this report.

Palivizumab Utilization Update

MS-DUR presented a report detailing the utilization of palivizumab for the prevention of serious lower respiratory tract disease caused by the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in children at high risk of severe disease during the 2020/2021 RSV season. In the US, RSV infections typically occur during the fall and winter cold and flu season. The 2020/2021 season was atypical with RSV activity remaining low during fall 2020 through spring 2021. An interseasonal rise in RSV infections began occurring May 2021. This atypical interseasonal activity of RSV prompted

Medicaid to reopen access to palivizumab outside of the typical season parameters. This report for the DUR Board was for informational purposes only.

No action was sought as a result of this report.

FDA Drug Safety Updates:

Dr. Pittman presented FDA drug safety communications for June 2021 – August 2021.

Pharmacy Program Update:

Ms. Kirby provided a pharmacy program update highlighting 3 updates:

- 1) Medicaid will be changing their fiscal agent from Conduent to Gainwell. This change is scheduled to take place sometime in 2022. Providers should begin seeing communications related to that change soon.
- 2) DOM is continuing to make updates to COVID-19 billing guidance.
- 3) On October 1, 2021, DOM will be implementing a diagnosis requirement for the prescribing of growth hormone agents for all beneficiaries.

Mr. Yount informed guests that beginning with the next in-person DUR Board Meeting, guests will be required to register in advance to attend. The process for registration will be similar to that utilized for P&T meetings

Next Meeting Information:

Dr. Pittman announced that the next meeting of the DUR Board will take place on December 9, 2021 at 1pm in-person at the Woolfolk Building.

Dr. Montalvo motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:22 pm, seconded by Dr. Taylor, 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](https://www.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.