

**MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID  
DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 MEETING**

<b>DUR Board Roster: State Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)</b>	<b>Dec 2021</b>	<b>Mar 2022</b>	<b>Jun 2022</b>	<b>Sep 2022</b>
Joseph Austin, MD	NA	NA	NA	✓
Lauren Bloodworth, PharmD	✓	✓		
Terrence Brown, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patrick Bynum, MD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chrysanthia Davis, PharmD	NA	NA	NA	✓
Tanya Fitts, MD		✓	✓	✓
Jahanzeb Khan, MD	NA	NA	NA	✓
Ray Montalvo, MD	✓			✓
Holly Moore, PharmD			✓	✓
Kristi Phelps, RPh	NA	NA	NA	✓
Joshua Pierce, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bobbie West, MD	NA	NA	NA	✓
<b>TOTAL PRESENT**</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>

*\*\* 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;

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

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

**Change Healthcare Staff:**

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

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

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

**Gainwell Staff:**

Ashleigh Holeman, MS Pharmacy Services Manager; Tricia Banks, PharmD, MS Clinical Pharmacist; Lew Anne Snow, RN, Advisor Business Analyst;

**Alliant Health Staff:**

Catherine Brett, MD, Quality Director, MS UM/QIO; Buddy Ogletree, PharmD, Pharmacist;

**Visitors:**

Floyd Holmes, Lilly; Cathy Prine-Eagle, Merck; Ryan Bucalo, Insulet Corporation; Bridget Gipson, UCB; Paula Whatley, Novo Nordisk; Julie Young, Abbvie; Shawn Headley, Gilead.

**Call to Order/Welcome:**

Dr. Montalvo called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

Mr. Smith welcomed the new members, Dr. Joseph Austin, Dr. Chrysanthia Davis, Dr. Jahanzeb Khan, Ms. Kristi Phelps, and Dr. Bobbie West. Mr. Smith took some time to provide an overview of the functions of the DUR Board for the new members.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Dr. Fitts moved to approve the minutes from the June 2022 DUR Board Meeting, seconded by Dr. Bynum, and unanimously approved by the DUR Board.

**Resource Utilization Review:**

Dr. Pittman presented the resource utilization report for June 2022. Dr. Pittman oriented the new board members to the information contained in the resource utilization report. He spent some additional time providing background for each section of the resource report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointment of Officers:**

The positions of Board Chair and Vice-Chair were vacant. Dr. Terrence Brown volunteered to become Chair and Dr. Tanya Fitts volunteered to become Vice-Chair. Dr. Austin moved to approve Dr. Brown and Dr. Fitts for these positions, seconded by Dr. Moore, and unanimously approved by the DUR Board.

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

Dr. Pittman provided an overview of all DUR mailings and educational notices that occurred between June 2022 – August 2022. Dr. Pittman provided a brief historical review of each mailing and noted how these educational efforts have impacted prescribing practices.

**Special Analysis Projects:**

**Assessment of Predictors of Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) Among Pregnant Medicaid Beneficiaries**

Improving maternal health is a primary focus area for the Division of Medicaid. This study examining the relationship between risk factors and severe maternal morbidity events among Medicaid beneficiaries will help inform DOM on which risk factors are most closely associated with SMM events and can help guide the development of future interventions aimed at

improving overall maternal health. From this model, the Maternal Comorbidity Index (MCI), distance from the delivery center, age, and race were found to be significantly associated with SMM events.

The following recommendations were presented:

1. MS-DUR should conduct an extension study of this analysis further examining MCI and distance from the delivery center:
  - a. Determine which MCI factors or cut-off points for MCI are most associated with SMM events.
  - b. Determine if there is a relationship between the distance to different types of delivery centers and SMM events.
2. DOM should explore opportunities to utilize findings from this analysis to inform the development of future services targeted toward improving maternal outcomes.
3. DOM and MS-DUR should seek opportunities to disseminate insights gained from this analysis into the broader public domain.

*Following a robust discussion, Dr. Brown made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented, seconded by Dr. Austin, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

#### **Utilization Trends of Immunomodulators Among Medicaid Beneficiaries**

Immunomodulator utilization among Medicaid beneficiaries has seen a significant increase in recent years. Dose escalations above FDA labeling were common among many agents examined in the Medicaid population. Dose escalation with immunomodulators has been explored in the literature with many of these studies focusing on patients with an inadequate initial response or those experiencing loss of response over time. In these studies, clinical criteria were established to determine the need for dose escalation, and disease activity measures were assessed to evaluate outcomes experienced.

The following recommendations were presented:

1. DOM should work to establish detailed clinical criteria for immunomodulators defining circumstances when dose escalation is appropriate and detailing monitoring parameters for determining outcomes associated with immunomodulating agents.
2. DOM should work to strengthen the electronic PA criteria for various immunomodulating agents focusing on appropriate diagnosis-based dosing.

*Following a robust discussion, Dr. Moore made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented, seconded by Dr. Fitts, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

#### **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 2021/2022 RSV season. Once again, this past year brought an atypical RSV season prompting 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.

**Influenza Vaccination and Treatment Update**

MS-DUR presented a report summarizing influenza vaccination and treatment among Medicaid beneficiaries during the 2021/2022 influenza season. The report detailed flu vaccinations by age group, pharmacy plan, and place of service for vaccine administration (pharmacy or medical setting). The report also detailed the use of anti-influenza therapeutic agents. This report 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 2022 – August 2022.

**Pharmacy Program Update:**

Ms. Kirby provided a pharmacy program update highlighting the upcoming transition to their new fiscal agent, Gainwell. Ms. Kirby provided the Board with a copy of a provider notice DOM was preparing to send out with details on the upcoming transition.

**Next Meeting Information:**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2022.

*Dr. Pierce motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:46 pm, seconded by Dr. Fitts, and unanimously approved by the Board.*

Submitted,

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



## NOTICE DETAILS

### NOTICE DETAILS

State Agency: Division of Medicaid

Public Body: Division of Medicaid

Title: Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting

Subject: Drug Utilization Review Board

Date and Time: 9/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Description:

Please see attachment regarding Drug Utilization Review Board meeting.

[Back](#)

### MEETING LOCATION

501 N. West Street  
Jackson MS 39201

[Map this!](#)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Chris Yount  
6013596336  
[christopher.yount@medicaid.ms.gov](mailto:christopher.yount@medicaid.ms.gov)

### DOWNLOAD ATTACHMENTS

DFA Meeting notification  
Added 1/4/2022

### SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS


Subscription options will  
future notices posted by

[RSS](#)

DRAFT

**Important Updates:** Beginning October 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. Registration will close at 12pm (noon) the day before the meeting. Due to the ongoing pandemic, *only one representative per company may register/attend*. Public speaking is not allowed at DUR meetings unless called on by the Board.

**Parking:** parking may be found on the perimeter of the Woolfolk Building, on the north side of the Woolfolk Building located at the old Wright and Ferguson building (yellow/brown building), and at the Division of Medicaid and First Baptist Church main parking lots at the corner of High Street and North President Street. *Guests may not park at the Woolfolk Building or in any parking space marked "Reserved"*.

 **CLICK HERE to register online! You must register to attend DUR Board meetings.**

NOTE: Registration is required for all pharmaceutical industry and advocacy representatives to be able to attend DUR Board meetings. Registration closes at 12:00 pm on September 14.

Organizations that have met the one rep per company limit (as of 7:45 am, September 15, 2022):

1. Abbott
2. AbbVie
3. Alliant
4. Bayer
5. Biogen
6. Capitol Resources
7. Centene
8. Change Healthcare
9. GBT
10. Gilead
11. GlaxoSmithKline
12. Insulet Corp.
13. Kite Pharma
14. Lilly
15. Merck
16. Mississippi State Dept. of Health
17. Molina
18. Novartis
19. Novo Nordisk
20. SOBI
21. Tolmar Pharmaceuticals
22. UCB
23. United Healthcare
24. ViiV

**Meeting Location:** Woolfolk Building, 501 North West Street, Conference Room 145, Jackson, MS 39201, unless otherwise noted by the corresponding date of the meeting listed below.

**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

**Dates and Times:**

2022 dates:

- March 3, 2022 (1-3pm; Room 117, Woolfolk Building)
- June 9, 2022 (1-3pm; Room 145)
- September 15, 2022 (1-3pm; Room 145)
- December 8, 2022 (1-3pm; Room 145)

**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.