

**MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID
DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW (DUR) BOARD
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2024 MEETING**

DUR Board Roster: State Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)	Mar 2024	Jun 2024	Sep 2024	Dec 2024
Joseph Austin, MD		✓		✓
Amy Catherine Baggett, PharmD	✓			
Terrence Brown, PharmD	✓	✓		
Chrysanthia Davis, PharmD	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dena Jackson, MD	✓		✓	
Jessica Lavender, MD	✓	✓	✓	
Holly Moore, PharmD	✓		✓	✓
Joshua Pierce, PharmD		✓	✓	
Gaylen Sanders, MD	NA	NA	✓	✓
Joshua Trull, DO	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bobbie West, MD	✓	✓		
TOTAL PRESENT**	10	8	7	5

*** 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; Amy Ly-Ha, PharmD, Pharmacist II; Anish Patel, PharmD, Pharmacist II; Catherine Brett, MD, Clinical Medical Director, Health Informatics;

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

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

Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) Staff:

Jenni Grantham, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy, Magnolia Health; Heather Odem, PharmD, Director of Pharmacy - Mississippi, UnitedHealthcare Community & State;

Gainwell Staff:

Lew Ann Snow, RN, Advisor Business Analyst;

MedImpact Staff:

Lynn Boudreaux, PharmD;

Telligen Staff:

Buddy Ogletree, PharmD, Pharmacist;

Visitors: Ashley Zichelli, Johnson and Johnson; Paula Whatley, Novo Nordisk.

Call to Order/Welcome:

The meeting began at 1:10 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

Due to the lack of a quorum being present, minutes from the September 12, 2024 meeting were not approved. This item will be added to the March 2025 meeting agenda.

Resource Utilization Review

Dr. Pittman presented the resource utilization report for September 2024. Data presented was across all pharmacy programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on MS-DUR Educational Interventions

Dr. Pittman provided an overview of all DUR mailings and educational notices that occurred between September 2024 and November 2024.

Zolgensma® Utilization

Dr. Pittman presented the Board with an overview of the utilization of Zolgensma®, a gene therapy product for the treatment of spinal muscular atrophy. Among the members who received Zolgensma® therapy, 43.8% have received subsequent treatment with either Spinraza® or Evrysdi®. Limited data exists supporting the effectiveness and feasibility of combination therapy with Zolgensma® and these agents.

Anti-obesity GLP-1 Medication Use Among Medicaid Members

Mississippi Medicaid is one of a handful of state Medicaid programs to begin covering anti-obesity medications. Since coverage began in July 2023, 2,948 individuals initiated medications for obesity management. This study examined the demographic and clinical profiles of Mississippi Medicaid members initiating GLP-1 medications for obesity management. Among members included in this analysis, the majority were Black females between 21-40 years of age with an obesity diagnosis ($BMI \geq 30$) and had chronic, comorbid conditions. Future work will examine adherence, outcomes, and changes in healthcare resource utilization among individuals initiating anti-obesity GLP-1 medications.

Adverse Events Associated with the Concomitant Use of Opioids and Psychotropic Medications

The concomitant prescribing of opioids and psychotropic medications is common practice despite evidence indicating that individuals concurrently prescribed these medications are more likely to experience opioid-related adverse events. This study examined the association between opioid-related adverse events among Medicaid members on long-term opioid therapy and the concurrent prescribing of opioids and psychotropic medications. Our results found that those individuals with concurrent opioid/psychotropic medication use had statistically greater

odds of experiencing both respiratory events and opioid overdose/mortality events compared with individuals not concurrently taking these medications. Next steps to consider may include examining the impact of concomitant prescribing on adverse events by specific psychotropic drug class or opioid dosing levels to inform a targeted education campaign focusing on the awareness of the increased risks and strategies to prevent their occurrence among Medicaid members.

FDA Drug Safety Updates:

Dr. Pittman reviewed the FDA drug safety communications published between September 2024 and November 2024.

Pharmacy Program Update:

Ms. Kirby provided a pharmacy program update highlighting recent State Plan Amendment (SPA) approvals:

- Diabetic supplies are now covered through pharmacy claims;
- DOM now has the approval to engage in value-based contracting agreements with manufacturers;
- Modifications to DOM's prescription coverage limit to allow for more than six prescriptions monthly for adults with a prior authorization;
- DOM will now cover imported drugs during drug shortages.

Next Meeting Information:

Proposed meeting dates for 2025:

- March 20, 2025
- June 12, 2025
- September 18, 2025
- December 11, 2025

Submitted,

Eric Pittman, PharmD

Evidence-Based DUR Initiative, MS-DUR

DUR Board Meeting Resources

Members

The DUR Board is composed of twelve participating Medicaid providers who are in good standing with their representative organizations.

- [DUR Board Member List](#)

Meetings

Meetings will be held on the following dates at 1:00 pm at the location as noted:

- ~~March 7, 2024~~
- ~~June 13, 2024~~
- Sept. 12, 2024 – Walter Sillers Building, 550 High Street, Jackson, MS – [Map](#)
- Dec. 5, 2024

The December 5 meeting may be viewed virtually by clicking on the following link:
[Click Here for MS Medicaid DUR Live Broadcast on December 5 2024 at 1:00 p.m.](#)

Please note: This link will only be live during the meeting and will not be archived for future viewing.