Alaska Medical Assistance DUR Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 15, 2024

Meeting was held telephonically 1:00 PM.

Drug Utilization Review Committee Attendees

Members Present	
Charles Semling, PharmD (DOH)	Charles Ryan, MD
Matt Parrott, PharmD (DOH)	
Coleman Cutchins, PharmD (DOH)	Non-Members Present
Robert Carlson, MD	Nina Huynh, PharmD (Prime Therapeutics)
Valarie Bixler, PharmD	Ryan Ruggles, PharmD, MSHI (Prime Therapeutics)
Claudia Phillips, MD	Members Absent
Casey Gokey, MD	
Keri McCutcheon, RPh	

Call to order at 1:05 PM.

Matt Parrott started the meeting and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Review of minutes from September 2024

Matt Parrott reviewed the minutes from September 2024. Charles Ryan moved to accept the minutes and there were no comments for change.

Overview of Medicaid Prescription and Cost Trends

Comparing October spend compared to same month and year was higher than typical. It appears that each category had increased. It was noted that the trendline for the year is very close to flat.

Top 10 categories were shown, and it was mentioned that psychostimulants and antidepressants were increased. It was mentioned that they may have had a seasonal increase for this meeting. The cost of the miscellaneous is driven by many low utilizer high cost drugs.

Top 25 product reports were shown to the committee. It was noted that there was not a lot of movement in these reports. Hydrocodone/APAP has fallen a few ranks, and Jardiance has moved up into the top 25 products. Ozempic has replaced Humira as the most spend for pharmacy reimbursement. It was noted that the hemophilia treatments by nature tend to swing in and out of the top 25 products by pharmacy reimbursement.

Excerpts from the Medical Pharmacy Report were shared with the committee. It was noted that Medicaid claims slightly went up, commercial claims went down. Rare Disease Spend was presented with the forecast of what may occur in the coming years. Biologic Drugs for autoimmune disorders were discussed, and the cost per claim was noted. Spend for Medicaid programs and the various drug classes was presented, and it was noted that oncology was the top ranking for spend and that is typical.

Prospective Drug Utilization Review/Clinical Topic Areas

New Prescription Medications (Interim PA List – 6 month review)

New items proposed for the interim PA list was presented to the committee.
Keri McCutcheon moved to approve the addition of the drug list.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

New Prior Authorizations, Quantity Limits, Edits

Kisunla criteria was presented to the committee.
Claudia Phillps moved to approve.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

Tremfya criteria was presented to the committee.
One slight correction was requested and approved.
Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Claudia Phillips seconded.
No committee opposition.

Winrevair criteria was presented to the committee.
Casey Gokey moved to approve.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

Zynteglo criteria was presented to the committee.
Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Robert Carlson seconded.
No committee opposition.

Existing Bimzelx criteria was presented to the committee. There were three new indications listed for this product and added to the criteria.
Charles Ryan moved to approve the updates.
Casey Gokey seconded.
No committee opposition.

Existing Dupixent criteria was presented to the committee. There were two additional indications approved for this product.
moved to approve.

seconded.
No committee opposition.

Opioid tables were reviewed with the committee. There were not many changes from the historical patterns. Our numbers are improving, and utilization is decreasing. It was noted that the states criteria has influenced and continues to influence these trends and results.

FDA Label Changes/FAERS Reports

There are no FDA safety communications at this time.

The FDA acted on 2 products where the labeling was similar, however most of the noted items are still under investigation.

Miscellaneous Items

The state is being urged to implement edits for stimulants in children by CMS. The goal is to align this program with published guidelines but also keep in mind some unique challenges that Alaskan patients face. It was noted that many patients received methylphenidate which was a class B recommendation. The state proposed a minimum age of 6 years old and grandfather in existing patients. The committee discussed the applicability for use in 5 years olds for when they are in school. The goal behind the edits is to provide care needed for patients. The committee also discussed collecting further information for patients under 6 years of age and their reason for need may show unmet needs in the communities. It was commented that many areas of the United States have similar challenges. The committee commented on parallels with this issue and other mental health disorder treatments in children. The committee reached a consensus on the proposed edit.

The state proposed an edit for all patients on stimulants to limit to one long acting and one short acting agent simultaneously. The committee did not oppose this edit and there was no further discussion.

Adults on antipsychotics with controlled medications were discussed and presented to the committee. It was commented that many of the co-prescribing for more than 3 months tended to include buprenorphine.

Children and psychotropic visuals were discussed with the committee. The data has been staying very steady over time. The state uses this info to ensure patients are receiving adequate care, and if warranted escalating the cases for secondary review.

End of Public Meeting

Adjournment 3:05 p.m.

Next meeting date January 17th, 2024.