Alaska Medical Assistance DUR Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 17th, 2025

Meeting was held telephonically 1:00 PM.

Drug Utilization Review Committee Attendees

Members Present	Non-Members Present
Charles Semling, PharmD (DOH)	Umang Patel, PharmD (Prime Therapeutics)
Matt Parrott, PharmD (DOH)	Nina Huynh, PharmD, BCPS (Prime Therapeutics)
Charles Ryan, MD	
Robert Carlson, MD	
Valarie Bixler, PharmD	Members Absent
Keri McCutcheon, RPh	Casey Gokey, MD
Anna Brecheisen, PharmD	Claudia Phillips, MD

Call to order at 1:07 PM.

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

Review of minutes from November 2024

Matt Parrott reviewed the minutes from November 15th 2024, and there were no comments for change. Charles Ryan moved to approve the minutes. There was no opposition.

Comments from the committee members highlighted the difficulty they had in logging into the meeting. Matt Parrott agreed, and informed the committee that we would work on streamlining that prior to the next meeting.

Overview of Medicaid Prescription and Cost Trends

Looking at the Program Trend Snapshot, Matt Parrott highlighted that it looks like there was a significant bump, but since the report compares the same month from the previous year it doesn't keep the context with the time trend. The Paid Per Member Per Month swing around the trendline approximately every 3 months.

Top 10 categories were shown by claim count and by total paid amount, and it was mentioned that the list has remained very steady over the last few meetings. The Miscellaneous category was described for the committee due to its high total paid amount. It was noted that cystic fibrosis and hemophilia medications drive a lot of this spend.

Top 25 products reports were shown to the committee. These lists have largely remained the same. It was noted that Mounjaro had moved into the top 25 products by pharmacy reimbursement which is a reflection of the larger GLP-1 utilization.

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.
There were no objections from the committee to adopt the list as drafted.

New Prior Authorizations, Quantity Limits, Edits

Auvelity criteria was presented to the committee.
Keri McCutcheon moved to approve.
Robert Carlson seconded.
No committee opposition.

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

Skyrizi criteria was presented to the committee.
There was a question regarding reauthorization approvals. Matt Parrott explained the requirement for any prior authorization reapproval must meet a threshold of medical necessity, which includes but is not limited to patient safety and benefit from the medication.
Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Robert Carlson seconded.
No committee opposition.

Updated Ocrevus criteria that included Ocrevus Zunovo was presented to the committee.
Keri McCutcheon moved to approve.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

Opioid tables were reviewed with the committee. Many of these table's trends have continued to move in the same direction as previous meetings. There was a question regarding the member count and percentage of patients on opioids. It was noted that there are approximately 245,000 members enrolled in Alaska Medicaid but that does not mean that they are utilizing pharmacy services. It was noted on the short-acting and long-acting tables that one prescriber office has shifted policies to only use short-acting opioids so that has affected this table. It was noted that the program has had success with required ICD10 submissions with claims and the average MME per days of supply has decreased steadily and is now sitting at 33 morphine milligram patients. Visuals for how long patients have been on opioids were presented to the committee. There was a comment that they show what we would expect. Prescriber and pharmacy network plots were shared with the committee. It was noted that for the committee they are not really useful but the significance of having the state looking at it was noted.

FDA Label Changes/FAERS Reports

The FDA Drug Safety communication titled “Serious liver injury being observed in patients without cirrhosis taking Ocaliva to treat primary biliary cholangitis” was shared with the committee.

Updated FAERS reports were shared with the committee. All of the items on the list are still in the evaluation stage.

Miscellaneous DUR Items

Adults on antipsychotics monitoring was shared with the committee. This meeting focused on compliance rates and patients on long acting injectables versus other medications, and if there was a difference in rural population versus populous areas of the state. It was demonstrated that patients in urban areas tend to have better compliance and there were less differences due to long-acting injectable use.

Children on antipsychotics were shown for the committee. It was noted that these reports are largely unchanged and seem to be quite steady. It was noted that OCS patients are still a small percentage and number of patients.

End of Public Meeting

Adjournment 2:24 p.m.

Next meeting date April 18th, 2025.