

Alaska Medical Assistance DUR Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 17th, 2021

Meeting was held Telephonically due to COVID-19. 1:04 PM

Drug Utilization Review Committee Attendees

Members Present	Non Members Present
Erin Narus, PharmD (DHSS)	Umang Patel, PharmD (Magellan)
Charles Semling, PharmD (DHSS)	Ryan Ruggles, PharmD, MSHI (Magellan)
Charles Ryan, MD	Lisa Townshend-Bulson,
Robert Carlson, MD	
Barb Piromalli, DO	
Jonathon Harrison, PharmD	Members Absent
	Dr. Heath McAnally, MD
	Keri McCutcheon, RPh

Call to order at PM.

Review of Agenda

Charles Semling went over the agenda for the committee members.

Review of minutes from September 2021

Charles Semling asked the committee if they had any changes to the minutes.

Motion to approve by Barb Piromalli.

Second by Charles Ryan.

Minutes approved.

Overview of Medicaid Prescription and Cost Trends

Charles Semling went through the detail of the program trend snapshot. It was noted that spend has essentially flatlined.

The top classes have pretty much stayed in the same order.

Top 25 drugs have remained similar, but it was noted that Ozempic jumped up the list.

Prospective Drug Utilization Review/Clinical Topic Areas

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

Interim PA list was short for this meeting. Charles Semling presented the logic for these medications and conditions that they treat. The committee agreed that the list seemed reasonable.

Robert Carlson asked if there have been any complaints with this process, none were noted. Charles Semling recommended adding in QL for Loreev Xr.

Charles Ryan asked about baclofen's presence on the list. Charles Semling clarified the new strength or form, and the reasoning behind the class.

Charles Ryan moved to approve
Second by Barb Piromalli.
No committee opposition.

New Prior Authorizations, Quantity Limits, Edits

Lisa Townshend-Bulson joined the meeting to present current trends for hepatitis C and what other states are doing in order to treat it. She indicated several reasons to eliminate the requirements for hepatitis C and to encourage patient treatment, with the nation's goal to become hepatitis C free by 2030.

It was noted that Alaska Medicaid has made treatment available. She also made the committee aware of simplified treatment model and the simplicity of the medication class versus other medication classes. Robert Carlson asked about how many people require transplants in the state. It was estimated about 30 per year. The use of each DAA and total cost and use for each different drug in the class.

Several points were made for removing the prior authorization criteria.

Hepatitis C criteria was presented along with trend reports of which direct acting antiretrovirals were used. The change to this criteria is to remove the requirement for prior authorization for preferred products. Barb Piromalli expressed that she is in favor. Robert Carlson was in favor of making it easy to get treatment.

Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Robert Carlson seconded.
No committee opposition.

Lybalvi criteria was presented.

Charles Semling asked the committee if they were in favor of including the requirement of the long acting injectable medication. Barb Piromalli stated that many patients were skeptical about injectable medications. Charles Semling pointed out the thought process for compliance and trying the injectable. Charles Ryan suggested removing the wording requiring the injectable trial.

Barb Piromalli moved to approve with changes.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

Kerendia criteria was presented.

Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Barb Piromalli seconded.
No committee opposition.

Verquvo criteria was presented.
Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Barb Piromalli seconded.
No committee opposition.

Myalept was presented.
Barb Piromalli moved to approve.
Charles Ryan seconded.
No committee opposition.

Lidocaine criteria was presented and recommended to be removed, but to keep the quantity limit.
Charles Ryan moved to approve.
Barb Piromalli seconded.
No committee opposition.

Opioid Report

Charles Semling presented the opioid use tables. It was noted that there was a decrease in all MME categories. Care management program has ramped up their program. Sankey plots were used to demonstrate the use of opioids over time and how patients move in and out of different MME groups. The theme across all tables was an improvement over time. Potentiator utilization showed a good decrease. Member shift in each MME class was presented for month to month. Trends were noted, and it was noted that true MME may not be reflected due to underutilization. The committee commented on the interpretability of the information without having the patient's clinical info.

ICD-10 Compliance report for opioids was presented to the committee, and noted the increase in trend.

ICD-10 Compliance report for Stimulants was presented. It was noted that most pharmacies are doing well.

Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine use

Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine use was presented for the committee. From prior to the pandemic and then through October.

FDA UPDATES

Safety Reports

JAK inhibitor report for the risk of serious heart-related events, cancer, blood clots and death.

FAERS Reports

FAERS Report was presented and reviewed by the committee. Beta-Blockers triggering hypoglycemia in pediatric patients, and monoclonal antibodies causing necrotizing fasciitis were pointed out specifically to the committee.

Post meeting comments

Charles Semling expressed thanks to the committee members for their thoughts and comments throughout the meeting.

End of Public Meeting

Adjournment 2:50 p.m.

Next meeting date January 21st, 2021.