



**MEDI-CAL DRUG USE REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Location: Department of Health Care Services
1501 Capitol Avenue, Room 71.1203
Sacramento, CA 95814**

| Topic | Discussion |
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| 1) CALL TO ORDER | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order by Dr. Stephen Stahl • Board members present: Drs. Stephen Stahl, Janeen McBride, Andrew Wong, Ross Miller, Patrick Finley, Paul Perry, Marilyn Stebbins, Timothy Albertson, and Robert Mowers • Board member absent: Dr. Kenneth Schell |
| 2) APPROVAL OF LAST DUR BOARD MINUTES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes unanimously approved as amended |
| 3) REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action items from the November meeting were reviewed. • The Board requested that in the future, individual action items be listed on the agenda |
| 4) DHCS COMMENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Drug List <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An update of this list is in the pipeline • DUR System Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scheduled to go live on April 27th. The website has been updated to reflect this. • DUR Test Alerts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DHCS reviewed the report on drug - pregnancy (PG) alerts in test ○ Alerts are placed in test mode to verify accuracy and measure volume ○ There is concern over a small number of alerts being generated when no valid NDC for prenatal vitamins or diagnosis code indicating pregnancy was on the recipient profile. But overall, the value of the alerts outweigh the incorrect alerts ○ EDS indicated that they are looking into the cause of the problem ○ The pregnancy alert has recently been updated with additional drugs contraindicated in pregnancy. EDS would like to leave the alerts in test for an additional month to ensure accuracy of the alert • Synagis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Barry Handon from the DHCS provided an overview of W & I Code 14105.3 and a study on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infections (J Pediatr 2006; 149:373-7) |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ W & I Code section 14105.3 gives the DHCS authority to contract with pharmacies for the delivery of specialized drugs ▪ The study concluded that RSV was the leading cause of infant hospitalization in California between 1999 and 2003 ○ The DHCS is proposing to implement W & I 14105.3 subdivision F through the first contract being for the provision of RSV infection prophylaxis ○ W & I 14105.3 also requires the DHCS to obtain recommendation from the DUR Board ○ There was discussion between Board members and Dr. Handon on some of the possible issues that may arise. Dr. Handon stated that there is awareness of the issues surrounding this and ways to clarify such issues are still being looked into. ○ The Board was in favor of this and asked for an update at the next meeting • E-Prescribing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Teri Miller gave an update on the e-prescribing project ○ The DHCS is continuing to monitor and participate in this project ○ The DHCS is participating in the Proof of Concept project piloting e-prescribing, in which 8 sites are actively using e-prescribing and is aiming towards statewide implementation ○ The differences in physician and pharmacy software, making them inoperable, has been a challenge ○ Issues are continuing to be worked through |
| <p>5) ONGOING PROJECTS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antidepressants in Children and Adolescents Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Patrick Finley provided an update on this study ○ The study was recently revisited and new data has been obtained ○ There was a 39% decrease in antidepressant prescriptions ○ Data showed that with a decrease in antidepressant use, there was an increase in suicide rates ○ The suicide diagnosis codes were believed to be for attempts rather than completed suicide ○ Dr. Finley believe additional follow up data should be obtained for another year to see if it is sustained • Rheumatoid Arthritis Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Andrew Wong provided an update on this study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There were 1.3 million patients looked at who had a diagnosis for RA or were on a medication that is related to RA ▪ There were 2 patient cohorts, one of which had 28,950 patients diagnosed with RA, 91% of which were started with a NSAID, 8% were on DMARD therapy, and 1% were on biologic response modifiers. Patients were observed for about 1 year and 23% went through augmentation of treatment ▪ Dr. Wong also shared an article that was published in the June 15, 2007 issue of Arthritis & Rheumatism : Assessment of American College of Rheumatology Quality Criteria for Rheumatoid Arthritis in a Pre-Quality Criteria Patient Cohort. The study showed an 85% treatment rate for DMARDs, 1/3 of which were transitioned to biologic agents. |
| <p>6) DUR BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON ONGOING</p> | |

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| PROJECTS | |
| 7) UTILIZATION REPORTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Utilization Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion of tables 5a, 6, and 7 were changed to bullet format from paragraphs, as requested by the Board during the November meeting ○ The Board liked the new format of these tables ○ Dr. Marilyn Stebbins asked why the 65+ age group were included in the reports if they have Medicare. This is because not all patients qualify for Medicare. |
| 8) VOTING ON MEETING TIME | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board voted to move the May Board meeting to the new facility and change the meeting time to 11 am – 1pm but to also keep the current room reserved for the rest of the year depending on how the May meeting goes at the new location |
| 9) PUBLIC OR DUR BOARD COMMENTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ross Miller inquired about an article published in the Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy (JMCP) and asked for a summary of the project and if anyone from the DHCS is doing research on it and also if it was possible to involve a DUR Board member • Dr. Teri Miller gave an overview on the project, which was a pilot mandated by legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pharmacies were paid an additional \$9.50 per claim for MTM services ○ Up to ten pharmacies were able to be included in the pilot ○ The pilot was initiated in 2004 and authorized for 3 years and was extended for an additional year ○ The DHCS is currently working with the University of California, San Diego on data analysis • Dr. Timothy Albertson stated that the DHCS is doing a lot in pharmacy and it would be useful for the DUR Board to know about such involvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Paul Perry stated that in order for the DUR Board to participate, they need to be put at the top of the queue to get through logistic loopholes ○ Pilar Williams stated that the DHCS is working on a committee to help facilitate the process for applying for studies and access to retrospective data ○ Dr. Ross Miller stated that having a Board member on the committee may help facilitate things ○ The Board would like an update on this committee at the next meeting ○ Dr. Paul Perry inquired about whether ideas for studies can be put on the DUR Board meeting agenda ○ Vic Walker will ask that Larry Dickey, the head of IRB to attend the next meeting |
| 10) ADJOURNMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. |

| Action Items | Ownership |
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| Update on Synagis/contract with pharmacies for delivery of specialized care. | DHCS |
| Provide an update on the committee that will help facilitate data exchange. | DHCS |
| Vic Walker to ask Larry Dickey to attend the next Board meeting | DHCS |
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