

DRUG REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2020

DRC Meeting ZOOM Webinar

Board Members Present

Laurence Miller, M.D.
Tonya Robertson, Pharm. D.
Chadwick Rodgers, M.D.
Melissa Max, Pharm. D.
Grace Marable, Pharm. D.
Daniel Pace, M.D.

Medicaid Staff Present

Cindi Pearson, Pharm. D., Chair
Annette Jones
Cynthia Neuhofel, Pharm. D.
Elizabeth Pitman, JD

Magellan Staff Present

Lynn Boudreaux, Pharm. D.

Board Members Absent

(1) Pharmacist Vacancy

PASSE Members Present

Kristen Pohl, Pharm. D.
Christopher Page, Pharm. D.
Lauren Jimerson, Pharm. D.

Meeting held virtually by ZOOM Webinar. All committee members, Medicaid staff and Dr. Boudreaux were considered panelists. A quorum was present, and the Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

I. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Public meeting was recorded. All visitors/attendees were muted.
- b. Committee members and DHS were able to speak at any time.
- c. Robert's Rules of Order were used to conduct business.
- d. Voting on motions was performed by roll call.

II. SPEAKERS

No speakers.

III. UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS OR GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1) Chair read the Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest Statement. Drs. Max, Marable and Robertson emailed their signed form prior to the meeting. Chair took verbal confirmation from Drs. Pace, Miller and Rodgers. No conflicts were declared by the committee members or chair.
- 2) Update on meeting location—no decision has been made for the August 2020 meeting.
- 3) DRC has a vacant pharmacist position.
- 4) Meeting minutes for the February 2020 DRC meeting were discussed. Motion by Dr. Miller to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Dr. Rodgers; All members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.
- 5) Update on PDL implementation from February 12, 2020 DRC meeting and April 2020 DUR
 - a. PDL updates were effective 4/1/2020--androgenic agents, topical antifungal agents, bladder relaxants, bronchodilators, and hypoglycemia agents
 - b. DUR PA manual review drugs were effective immediately; Lab edits/POS edits for Lovaza® and Lysteda® will be effective 7/15/2020. Updates on Gabapentin and Leucovorin will be effective 7/15/2020.

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IV. NEW BUSINESS

1) Short-acting opioids

This review is a renewal of the short-acting opioid drug class on PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications
- b) Overview of Morphine Milligram Equivalents
- c) Key Points
- d) Summary list of short-acting opioid products
- e) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Rodgers asked what was the spend in 2018 and if Opioid total spend had decreased with the addition of edits and PDL. Dr. Boudreaux confirmed that there has been a decrease. Chair discussed the April DUR meeting in which opioid and benzodiazepine utilization were discussed. Chair will send all committee members copies of the DUR slides pertaining to utilization and spend. No other comments or questions.

ACTION:

Since the committee did not express concern over safety or efficacy for any agent, the chair made the recommendation to approve options most beneficial to the state. Motion to approve the preferred agents that are most beneficial to the state was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Max. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

2) Oral Contraceptives

Oral contraceptives is a new class on the preferred drug list. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) Summary list of oral contraceptives
- b) Overview of oral contraceptives
- c) Hormone selection
- d) Mechanism of Action
- e) Differences in progestin by drug and generation
- f) Efficacy rates
- g) Warnings and contraindications
- h) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Rodgers stated that he is a big proponent of birth control, starting with low dose first. Patients may need a specific indication for certain options. Dr. Rodgers wants to make sure patients have access to birth control. Dr. Pace stated that \$3,000,000 is a lot of money but cheaper than raising a child. Dr. Pace tries to use low dose combinations as well. Dr. Pace wanted to allow POS substitution. Dr. Robertson stated that there are too many options to spend that much on any one medication. Dr.

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Max is concerned about the provider perspective if there are a lot of steps to go through to get patient birth control. She felt we would need to make sure there was not many barriers and there were options. Dr. Boudreaux stated we don't want to have people without their birth control, but a solution may be provider education by letter before a change is made. Dr. Boudreaux also agreed with Dr. Robertson. Dr. Marable asked about a supply chain interruption for Loestrin and possibly Lo Loestrin FE. She asked if there was any data for 2020 to ensure that Lo Loestrin Fe was actually on the market. Dr. Boudreaux stated that with her experience in retail pharmacy there has not been a shortage, but she can get 2020 spend. Dr. Miller asked if we could use RDUR for education purposes prior to initiating the change. Dr. Robertson asked if we could put out a narrowed down list of most cost effective with representation in each strength. Chair stated that many products with iron have significant price difference. Dr. Rodgers would like an OB/GYN to provide an opinion. Dr. Pace feels that most PCPs do not care about brand of product but more concerned with dosing. Elizabeth Pitman suggested pushing back implementation a quarter to allow for provider education. Dr. Max asked if autosub would be an option. Chair stated that would not be an option with the Medicaid program. Dr. Boudreaux reminded committee that Medicaid does cover iron supplementation. Dr. Boudreaux asked if we could decide on some preferred options, so we could send in provider educational letters. Dr. Robertson asked if the committee could make a recommendation that substitution at POS may be done if we deem them therapeutically equivalent. Dr. Boudreaux and Chair stated that this cannot be done. Chair made the recommendation that the committee approve using options that were most beneficial to the state as long as options were available in each type/class of products. Dr. Rodgers suggested to look at products with most claims in making decisions. Dr. Pace stated that many providers do not know cost of medications ordered, and education would be helpful. Chair will contact OB/GYN for input. Decision on preferred drug list can be made with input from DRC, DCC and OB/GYN. Dr. Robertson asked if we could make highlighted products nonpreferred. Dr. Boudreaux did mention that Lo Loestrin FE is the only product with 10mcg of ethinyl estradiol. Dr. Rodgers feels like starting out on lower cost options and give justification on other higher cost options. Dr. Neuhofel suggested that we make recommendations for options in each type (i.e. monophasic, biphasic etc.).

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Rodgers; seconded by Dr. Pace. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

3) Ophthalmics: Allergic Conjunctivitis Agents

This review is a renewal of the allergic conjunctivitis drug class on PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications
- b) Overview of conjunctivitis
- c) Treatment guidelines
- d) Evidence Based Medicine summaries
- e) Key points
- f) Summary list of allergic conjunctivitis agents

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g) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Rodgers has good response with Zaditor and allergists like Azelastine. Dr. Rodgers would like to add Pataday to the current preferred medications as patients have usually tried options over the counter. Dr. Robertson asked if we can make the costliest nonpreferred. If we are suggesting making Azelastine, Ketotifen and Olopatadine preferred, she would agree. Dr. Rodgers add cromolyn to Dr. Robertson's list.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Rodgers; seconded by Dr. Marable. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

4) **Ophthalmics: Antibiotic and Antibiotic/Steroid Agents**

This review is a renewal of the antibiotic and antibiotic/steroid drug classes on PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications
- b) Overview of infectious conjunctivitis
- c) Treatment guidelines
- d) Evidence Based Medicine summaries
- e) Product selection
- f) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Rodgers has never had problems with the preferred lists clinically and approves continued use of current preferred agents. Dr. Rodgers did not want to make the motion to have PDL chosen specifically on most beneficial to the state. He suggested to continue with those medications currently listed as preferred. No other comments or questions.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Rodgers; seconded by Dr. Max. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

5) **Ophthalmics: Anti-inflammatory Agents**

This class will be new for the Arkansas Medicaid PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications (corticosteroids and nonsteroidal products)
- b) Overview of ophthalmic inflammation
- c) Treatment guidelines for cataracts
- d) Evidence Based Medicine summaries

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- e) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Robertson asked for the current preferred list. Chair provided. Chair asked for a motion for decision to be made in using a variety of both NSAIDs and steroids which most benefits the state.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Max. All voting members present voted for the motion. Dr. Rodgers had left the meeting temporarily due to technical issues. Motion passed.

6) Ophthalmics: Glaucoma Agents

This review is a renewal of the glaucoma agents drug class on PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications
- b) Overview of glaucoma
- c) Treatment guidelines
- d) Evidence Based Medicine summaries
- e) Product selection
- f) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

DISCUSSION:

Chair stated that we currently have 11 preferred with both single agents and combination agents with multiple mechanisms of action. Chair stated that studies indicate that all of the products have similar safety and efficacy. Chair asked for a motion to approve based on most beneficial to the state with a variety of MOAs. Dr. Marable asked if some currently require a PA, and Dr. Robertson asked to see the preferred list.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Pace; seconded by Dr. Rodgers. All voting members present voted for the motion. Motion passed.

7) Topical Corticosteroids

This review is a renewal of the topical corticosteroids drug class on PDL. Dr. Boudreaux presented a PowerPoint with the following information.

- a) FDA approved indications broken down by potency category
- b) Overview of various diagnoses that require topical corticosteroids
- c) Guidelines for treatment of atopic dermatitis and psoriasis
- d) Evidence Based Medicine summaries
- e) Claims summary from 1/1/2019-12/31/2019

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DISCUSSION:

All potency classes were reviewed together. Dr. Rodgers discussed that many options are cost effective. He is in agreement that each potency class should have representation of multiple dosage forms (i.e. cream, lotion, ointment, solution, etc.) Dr. Boudreaux did comment that we had availability issues of some previously preferred brand products, so we opened up generics as preferred. Chair asked for a motion to select multiple medications for each potency class and ensure that multiple dosage forms were available for each potency class.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the above recommendations was made by Dr. Miller; seconded by Robertson. All voting members present voted for the motion. Dr. Marable had to leave the meeting before this vote. Motion passed.

- V. Chair provided schedule of future DRC meeting dates.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:59 a.m.