

**Nebraska Medicaid DUR Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 12, 2010**  
*DRAFT pending approval at March meeting*

The Nebraska Medicaid DUR Board met on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at the Country Inn and Suites in Lincoln.

**DUR Board Members in Attendance:**

Kevin Borchert, R.P.  
Lynn Carlson, R.P.  
Elissa Carney, R.P.  
Shana Castillo, R.P.  
Eric Gall, R.P.  
Nicole Gillespie, PharmD. Candidate CU  
Bruce Houghton, M.D.  
David Hutsell, R.P.  
Norman Kelley, M.D.  
Charlie Moore, R.P.  
Marcia Muetting, R.P., Nebraska DUR Director  
Kirk Muffly, M.D.  
Phil Vuchetich, R.P.  
Robert Wergin, M.D.

**DUR Board Members Absent:**

Karsen Duncan, PharmD. Candidate UNMC  
Susan Howard, M.D.

**Guests in Attendance:**

Barbara Dowd, R.P. First Health Services Corporation  
Amanda Pekny, PharmD. Candidate UNMC  
Jenny Minchow, R.P. Nebraska Medicaid

**Public Members in Attendance:**

Sarah White, Abbott Diabetes Care  
Patti Wingbermuehle, AstraZeneca  
Tim Rutti, Gilead  
Don Larson, Forest  
Dave Walters, J&J  
Barbara Belcher, Merck  
Todd Houldsworth, Ortho-McNeil-Janssen  
Laura Litzenberger, Ortho-McNeil-Janssen

**I. Opening and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Introductions were made by the public members attending, DUR Board members, and guests in attendance. The director noted that a copy of the Open Meeting Laws is available on the front table along with a copy of all meeting materials.

**II. Declaration of any Conflict of Interest or changes**

None

**III. Review of Agenda**

The director noted that two items should be removed from the agenda, Old Business under Prospective DUR and Review of Prior Authorization for Lamictal XR under New Business, Prospective DUR. A motion to accept the agenda as amended was made by Phil Vuchetich with a second from Kevin Borchert. Vote as follows: Borchert-yes, Carlson-yes, Carney-yes, Castillo-yes, Gall-yes, Houghton-yes, Hutsell-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Muffly-yes, Vuchetich-yes and Wergin-yes. Motion carried.

#### **IV. Review of minutes from November meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Kevin Borchert with a second from Bob Wergin. Vote as follows: Borchert-yes, Carlson-yes, Carney-yes, Castillo-yes, Gall-yes, Houghton-yes, Hutsell-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Muffly-abstain, Vuchetich-yes and Wergin-yes. Motion carried.

#### **V. Retrospective DUR**

##### **A. Current Profile Review**

###### **1. Lock Ins**

The director reported that this is an ongoing project with no updates to report.

###### **2. Patients taking methadone with fluoroquinolones**

Barbara Dowd reported that 19 profiles were forwarded for review. The director noted that profiles had been reviewed and letters will be sent to providers that prescribed both agents.

###### **3. Patients utilizing multiple providers to obtain controlled substances**

Barbara Dowd reported that 200 profiles were forwarded for review. The criteria included patients that utilized more than or equal to 5 prescribers and more than or equal to 3 pharmacies in the study period. The number of prescription claims per patient ranged from 8 to 32. The director noted that the review was in process of being completed.

##### **B. Old Business**

###### **1. Patients taking 2 or more serotonergic drugs**

Barbara Dowd reported that 200 profiles were reviewed and 70 letters were sent to prescribers. There were 15 responses, a 21% response rate. Nine indicated that they were aware of the issue. Four providers noted that the patient will be flagged for monitoring/review. Eight prescribers noted that the intervention was useful.

##### **C. Recommendations for Future Profile Reviews**

The director proposed the following options for future reviews as performed in other states:

**1. HIV/AIDS non compliance-Maryland.** (Barbara Dowd noted that criteria already exist, with 57 exceptions in October 2009 and 42 exceptions in November 2009.)

**2. Medication compliance in patients with heart failure-Missouri.** (Barbara Dowd noted that criteria already exists which looks at patients with a diagnosis on file of chronic heart failure who are noncompliant with beta-blocker and ACE inhibitor therapy.) Don Larsen offered information regarding the intervention performed by Kansas Medical Assistance Program. Concerns were voiced regarding false positives from incorrect coding, Medicare Part D drug coverage, which would prevent obtaining a complete profile and that a thorough profile review would be required. It was noted that many hospital systems are examining this issue and what can be done to prevent readmission.

**3. Underuse of statins for Type 2 Diabetics-New Mexico.** (Barbara Dowd noted that an ad hoc report would need to be created for this criteria.)

**4. Patients taking more than 3 tablets of colchicine per day for 6 months-North Carolina** (Barbara Dowd noted that criteria exist for this issue, but the length of the study would need to be modified.)

**5. Iron supplementation in patients taking Epoetin-Virginia.** Board members voiced concerns about a change in guidelines which may decrease use of Epoetin, the possibility that patients could not have a claim for iron purchases (OTC) or clinic administration (IV).

*Board discussion resulted in selection of projects numbered 2 and 3.*

#### **VI. Prospective DUR**

##### **A. New Business**

###### **1. DUR Board review of New Drug Products to determine if Prior Authorization is appropriate**

###### **a. Ulesfia**

Public comment was not offered. Barbara Dowd noted that there were 5 requests including 1 approval, 2 denials for age outside of FDA approved labeling and 2 changes in therapy. Board members voiced concern regarding any action recommended by the DUR Board, pending the P & T Review in August of 2010. It was also noted that it would be difficult to propose coverage

criteria under a prior authorization which required a treatment failure. Defining what constitutes treatment failure, (as opposed to incorrect application of the medication) would be complicated. Members discussed the few requests received for the medication and that prescribers are likely to use a PDL- preferred drug which requires a single application. A motion was made to remove the Prior Authorization by Norman Kelley with a second from Kirk Muffly. Vote as follows: Borchner-no, Carlson-no, Carney-yes, Castillo-no, Gall-yes, Houghton-yes, Hutsell-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Muffly-yes, Vuchetich-yes and Wergin-yes. Motion carried.

**b. Nucynta**

Public comment was offered by Laura Litzenberger. She noted the dual mechanism of action of Nucynta, which lead to less nausea and vomiting, as compared to oxycodone. She also discussed that some patients may deny themselves access to pain medications because of the GI side effects. She explained that Nucynta could be used in patients who cannot tolerate other opioids, with acute pain that lasts more than a few days. A board member asked about the differences between Nucynta and tramadol. She noted that Nucynta has no active metabolites and is not metabolized by cytochrome P450 and therefore has no drug interactions. A motion was made by Eric Gall with a second from Shana Castillo to recommend that the PA remain on Nucynta, requiring intolerance to other approved therapy due to nausea and vomiting. Vote as follows: Borchner-yes, Carlson-yes, Carney-yes, Castillo-yes, Gall-yes, Houghton-yes, Hutsell-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Muffly-yes, Vuchetich-yes and Wergin-yes. Motion carried.

**2. Request from the Department to develop criteria for the Oral Antifungals: flucytosine, itraconazole, posaconazole and voriconazole per P & T Committe discussion**

Board discussion resulted in a request of additional time to consider the request and additional information including a table of all approved indications, the medications for treatment, noting whether the medications are preferred or non-preferred and where the drug of choice for a particular indication is a non-preferred agent on the PDL.

**VII. Special Requests from the Department**

The director noted that the Department requested the DUR Board to review the 1st Generation Antihistamines and discuss a possible prior authorization for the class, due to increasing costs. Board members requested that the issue be discussed at the next meeting.

**VIII. Future Meeting Dates**

March 9  
May 11  
July 13  
September 14  
November 9

**IX. Concerns and Comments from:**

**Board**

None

**Director**

None

**State Representatives**

None

**X. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm was made by Norman Kelley with a second from Kevin Borchner. Vote as follows: Borchner-yes, Carlson-yes, Carney-yes, Castillo-yes, Gall-yes, Houghton-yes, Hutsell-yes, Kelley-yes, Moore-yes, Muffly-no, Vuchetich-yes and Wergin-yes. Motion carried.