

**Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS)
Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board
Quarterly Meeting
May 24, 2006**

The quarterly meeting of the ODJFS DUR Board was called to order at 12:04 PM in the tower conference room, 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio. Donald Sullivan, PhD, RPh, Chair, presided. The following Board members were present:

Thomas Gretter, MD
Jacob Palomaki, MD
Lenard Presutti, DO
Donald Sullivan, PhD, RPh

Also present was Margaret Scott, RPh, DUR Administrator. Excused absences were Suzanne Eastman, RPh, and Rob Kubasak, RPh. Unexcused absences were Timothy Garner, MD, and Jill Orn, RPh. Nine observers were present, representing pharmaceutical manufacturers and First Health Services Corporation.

The Board's new member, Lenard Presutti, DO, was introduced to the group.

Reading, Correction & Approval of Previous Minutes:

The November 9, 2005, DUR Board minutes were approved with no corrections. (1st J. Palomaki, 2nd T. Gretter)

DUR Committee Report:

Applications for DUR Committee positions have been solicited through a Request for Letterhead Bid (RLB) released on April 24 with responses due today, May 24.

At the March 7th DUR Committee meeting, members reviewed patient profiles to identify therapeutic problems with lipid duplication. Prescribers for patients receiving two or more drugs in the same class (statins, fibric acid derivatives) will receive intervention letters. In addition, prescribers of both a statin and ezetimibe for the same patient will be advised that Vytarin® is a cost-effective combination product that should be considered.

At the April 11th DUR Committee meeting, members reviewed patient profiles for 26 consumers enrolled in the PASSPORT waiver program administered by the Ohio Department of Aging. Administrators of the PASSPORT program had concerns that one physician was providing inappropriate care. The Committee did not find any therapeutic problems for the patients identified by the Department of Aging, and a letter confirming this opinion was sent.

Health Plan Policy:

M. Scott shared information about the transition of point-of-sale pharmacy claims processing from First Health Services Corporation to ACS State Healthcare Solutions. ACS will begin processing claims for Ohio Medicaid and Disability Medical Assistance consumers on July 1.

M. Scott gave an update regarding the Comprehensive Neuroscience (CNS) project. A stakeholder meeting held May 3rd was well-received. The project continues to receive support from the provider and advocacy communities. Preliminary data on a cohort of several hundred patients shows a savings of over \$300,000 on atypical antipsychotics, when the 5 months before

intervention and 5 months after the first intervention are compared. M. Scott will provide a more detailed update at the September 20th meeting at the request of the Board.

Unfinished Business:

The smoking cessation MAL has not been mailed. M. Scott will continue to put the letter through the process within the department.

Point-of-sale system edits for quantity of medication allowed per day that were approved at the November Board meeting will be implemented some time after the transition to the new point-of-sale vendor. The department does not want to make changes to the program at the same time as implementation of the new vendor to lessen the impact on pharmacy providers.

Intervention letters for reviews performed in October through December 2005 have not been sent.

New Business:

The Board members who were present signed the Conflict of Interest statement.

The DUR Committee's next review, scheduled for June 13th, is Doctor Shopping. The Board voted that patients receiving controlled substances, tramadol, and/or carisoprodol from three or more prescribers in a 45-day period should be reviewed (1st T. Gretter, 2nd J. Palomaki).

D. Sullivan expressed concern that the DUR program has lost focus and importance within the department over the last two years. M. Scott acknowledged that other priorities with firm deadlines, including Medicare Part D and the transition of point-of-sale vendors, have taken precedence over DUR activities, but that DUR was still considered a priority for the department. D. Sullivan will draft a letter to Robyn Colby, Chief of Health Plan Policy, outlining the Board's concerns. Ms. Colby will also be invited to the September 20th Board meeting to discuss prioritizing DUR.

The Board discussed the department's move to managed care within the next year. Agenda items for the September 20th meeting will include the changing population and future direction of the DUR program. Once the managed care implementation is complete, the fee-for-service population will be limited to dual eligibles, institutionalized consumers, waiver consumers, spenddown consumers, and disabled children. These populations will require a different DUR strategy.

D. Sullivan introduced information about the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS), a new program of the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. The system will allow prescribers and pharmacists to access information about use of controlled substance, tramadol, and carisoprodol by their patients. Pharmacies and wholesalers are required to report transactions to the Board of Pharmacy. Health professionals are only allowed to request reports on patients with whom they have a relationship. Law enforcement will be able to use the system as well, but must have an active case file. More information is available at www.ohiopmp.gov. The system will be available beginning in July.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Margaret Scott, RPh, DUR Administrator