

**Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS)  
Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board  
Quarterly Meeting  
November 19, 2008**

The quarterly meeting of the ODJFS DUR Board was called to order at 12:02 PM in room B-1 of the Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 E. Broad St. Columbus, Ohio. Donald Sullivan, RPh, Chair, presided. The following Board members were present:

Thomas Gretter, MD  
Robert Kubasak, RPh, Co-Chair  
Kevin Mitchell, RPh,  
Lenard Presutti, DO  
Michael Farrell, MD

Also present were Margaret Scott, RPh, DUR Administrator, Jill Griffith, RPh, DUR Director, and Pam Heaton RPh, of the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy. J. Layne Moore, MD was an excused absence. Approximately 7 observers were present, most representing pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Reading, Correction & Approval of Previous Minutes:

The May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008, DUR Board minutes were approved with no corrections. (1<sup>st</sup> T. Gretter 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Kubasak).

DUR Committee Report:

J. Griffith gave the DUR Committee report.

In March 2008, the DUR Committee evaluated 339 profiles of patients receiving low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) for greater than four to five weeks. Sixty-eight profiles required letters. Letters were mailed during April 2008. Twenty-three letters have been returned so far with mainly positive comments from physicians. The Board also offered comment on the *Ohio DUR Review* educational article regarding LMWH use. This article will be posted on the website.

In May and June 2008, the DUR Committee evaluated the use of orally disintegrating tablet (ODT) formulations in patients prescribed other tablet formulations. ODT formulations under review included: Fazaclo (clozapine), Zyprexa Zydis (olanzapine), Risperdal M Tab, Abilify Discmelt (aripiprazole), Remeron Soltab (mirtazepine). 847 profiles were reviewed. Those profiles are currently being updated with more current clinical information and will be mailed during the month of December. The Board reviewed the ODT physician letter and response form.

### Health Plan Policy:

M. Scott announced that the P&T Committee meet on July 16, 2008 and the new Preferred Drug List (PDL) was implemented in October. New PA criteria are in place regarding duration of therapy with the LMWHs and no complaints have been received.

### Unfinished Business:

M. Scott introduced Dr. Michael Farrell. He came to the DUR Board via recommendation from the American Academy of Pediatrics – Ohio Chapter. He is a pediatric gastrointestinal specialist practicing at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. M. Scott also announced that pharmacist David Brookover, RPh has been appointed to fill the vacancy left by John Petracchi, RPh.

The DUR Committee was approached by the Bureau of Community Access (BCA) to review patients on waiver programs who are taking psychotropic medications without a mental health diagnosis. J. Griffith and M. Scott met with BCA staff and are moving forward this review topic. The University of Cincinnati will perform the data analysis.

### New Business:

MEDTAPP Grant Award – M. Scott introduced Pamela Heaton, PhD, RPh from the University of Cincinnati. Her contract is signed. The state continues to work toward transferring data to them. The first project will be researching the fee-for-service patient population demographics.

The P&T Committee requested the DUR Board consider several topics for 2009 review:

- Duration of proton pump inhibitor (PPI) therapy, especially in recently hospitalized patients
- Ophthalmic quinolone overutilization and outlining appropriate use
- leukotriene receptor antagonist (LTRA) step edit for use in allergic rhinitis patients.

The DUR Board agreed with these review topics and requested the state look at otic quinolone utilization as well.

The DUR Committee recommended several topics for review in 2009:

- Actos and Avandia use in patients with a diagnosis of heart failure.
- Metformin use in patients with advanced age or other contraindications.
- Concomitant ACE inhibitor use in patients already on angiotensin II receptor blockers.
- Statin doses and in patients on fibrates.
- Albuterol HFA excessive use (> 24 inhalers / yr).
- Concomitant Spiriva and Atrovent or Duoneb use.
- Concomitant Advair and Inhaled corticosteroid use.

The DUR board determined that duplicative inhaler use and TZD use in patients with CHF are to be reviewed in January 2009 and February 2009. PPI duration of therapy, otic and ophthalmic quinolone overutilization and albuterol HFA use to follow.

M. Scott updated the board regarding the 2008 pediatric insomnia review in which the DUR Committee looked at children on a sedating drug with very limited pediatric safety or dosing information; multiple sedatives or lengthy duration of sedative use. Drugs reviewed included: zolpidem, zaleplon, eszopiclone, flurazepam, temazepam, estazolam and triazolam. 133 profiles were evaluated, 15 profiles required letters which were mailed in the month of April. Twelve physician responses were received, of which eight included comment regarding reasons for therapy. All comments were positive.

M. Scott also announced that the December 2008 DUR Committee would be reviewing use of liquid antidepressants in patients who have also been prescribed oral tablets.

DUR Board 2009 meeting dates were set at noon on the following dates: February 25<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup>, September 16<sup>th</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>. The Board requested these dates be emailed to them.

Election Results: T. Gretter, Chairman and K. Mitchell, Co-chairman.

The conflict of interest statement was signed by all members present.

Announcements:

The next DUR Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 25, 2009. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

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Jill R.K. Griffith B.S., Pharm.D., DUR Program Director