



# MINUTES

Utah Department of Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2016  
7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.  
Cannon Health Building  
Room 125

## Board Members Present

Jay Aldus, D.D.S	Jennifer Brinton, M.D., Board Chair
Ben Berrett, Pharm.D.	Susan Siegfried, M.D
Neal Catalano, Pharm.D.	Steve Lore, M.D
Holly Gurgle, Pharm.D.	Katherine Smith, Pharm.D.
Keith Tolman, M.D.	Michael Symond, M.D.

## Board Members Excused:

Kumar Shah, M.Sc., P.Eng.

## Dept. of Health/Div. of Health Care Financing Staff Present:

Chad Hope, Pharm.D.	Heather Santacruz, R.N.
Robyn Seely, Pharm.D.	Alyssa Pitts, R.N.
Bryan Larson, Pharm.D.	Merelynn Berrett, R.N
Megan Schlappi, C.Ph.T.	

## Other Individuals Present:

Joanita Lake, UofU*	Cody Ball, Select Health
James Gausted, Purdue	Thomas Nguyen, Select Health
Charissa Anne, Johnson & Johnson	

\*UofU = University of Utah

Meeting conducted by: Jennifer Brinton, M.D.

- Welcome & Housekeeping:** Jennifer Brinton opened the meeting.
  - Motion: Follow Roberts Rules of Order when scribing the meeting minutes. Motion made by Keith Tolman. Seconded by Jay Aldus. Affirmed unanimously.
- 9 Month Review: Grastek, Afrezza, Ragwitek, Oralair:** Robyn Seely said that the previously set criteria on these medications is working well with no problems.
- H.P. Acthar Gel:** Joanita Lake from the University of Utah DRRC presented drug information including disease symptoms, studies, side effects, indications and other information about the three androgen products. Data was also presented about the utilization of the drugs in the Utah Medicaid population.
- Public Comments:** N/A

## **5. Board Discussion**

a. Steve Lore asked what the advantages and disadvantages were for H.P. Acthar Gel over regular steroids. Joanita Lake said that in her research, there were no studies or information posted that compared H.P Acthar Gel to regular steroids. She did note, however, that one major disadvantage for H.P. Acthar Gel is that the needle is very large and very painful. Another disadvantage that she noted was that H.P. Acthar Gel is very expensive.

b. Steve Lore said that one advantage he could see is that by using H.P Acthar Gel, you are using your bodies array of steroids instead of giving just one molecule. He has seen tissue damage on occasion with the use of one molecule.

c. Katherine Smith said that there actually are head to head studies for H.P. Acthar Gel and regular steroids for the diagnosis of West Syndrome. She noted that in the clinical trials, there was an advantage to using H.P. Acthar Gel over other steroids. She also noted how rare of a disease West Syndrome is, and that the number of cases in Utah is less than 25.

d. Chad Hope said that there is only one pharmacy in the country that dispenses H.P. Acthar Gel.

e. Neal Catalano made a motion to leave H.P Acthar as is and not add any PA criteria. Seconded by Ben Berrett. Affirmed unanimously.

## **6. Public Meeting Adjourned**

a. Keith Tolman motioned to close the meeting, Susan Siegfroid seconded. Affirmed unanimously.

## **7. Next meeting is scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Xyrem will be discussed.**

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Minutes prepared by Megan Schlappi, CPhT

Recording available upon request, send email to [medicaidpharmacy@utah.gov](mailto:medicaidpharmacy@utah.gov)