



# MINUTES

Utah Department of Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board

**Thursday, November 10th, 2016**  
**7:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.**  
**Cannon Health Building**  
**Room 125**

**Board Members Present:**

Jennifer Brinton, M.D., Board Chair	Keith Tolman, M.D.
Susan Siegfried, M.D.	Neal Catalano, Pharm.D.
Steve Lore, M.D.	Michael Symond, M.D.
Kim Michelson, D.D.S.	Kumar Shah, M.Sc., P.Eng.
Katherine Smith, Pharm.D.	

**Board Members Excused:**

Holly Gurgle, Pharm.D.	Ben Berrett, Pharm.D.
Aesha Drozdowski, Pharm.D.	

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

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

**Other Individuals Present:**

Joanita Lake, U of U*	Robert Nohavec, U of U Health Plans
Joann LeFleur, U of U*	Corey Dahl, Omega Interventional Pain
Melissa Archer, U of U*	Gordon Tattersall, Pfizer
Cody Ball, Select Health	Scott Hadfield, Omega Interventional Pain
Sharon Weinstein, M.D.	Scott Junkins, M.D. University of Utah

\*UofU = University of Utah

Meeting conducted by: Jennifer Brinton, M.D.

- Welcome & Housekeeping:** Dr. Jennifer Brinton opened the meeting and reminded everyone to sign the rosters.
- Review and Approval of October Minutes:** Dr. Keith Tolman suggested postponing approval of the minutes until the next meeting pending a question he had.
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee update:** Bryan Larson, P&T Manager, updated the board on the P&T Committee. The P&T Committee met last month to discuss “Older Anticonvulsant Agents”; however, due to a lack of a quorum, the meeting

was postponed until the next month. “Anti-Anxiety Benzodiazepines” will also be discussed at the next meeting.

#### 4. **Long Acting Opiates**

Kumar Shah made a motion that the board will finalize the discussion about long acting opiates by the end of the meeting. He suggested that the board come together to make a plan for new patients starting on long acting opiates, patients that are already on long acting opiates, and methadone. Dr. Steve Lore seconded this motion. Eight board members approved. One board member abstained (Katherine Smith, Pharm.D.).

##### a. **Public Comment:**

1. Scott Junkins, M.D.: Dr. Junkins discussed his work with Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) as the Medical Director of the University of Utah Pain Management Center using a multidisciplinary pain management team coupled with a headache specialist. Project ECHO is a collaborative model of medical education and care management using telemedicine that empowers clinicians everywhere to provide better care to more people, right where they live, especially in underserved, rural areas.
2. Sharon Weinstein, M.D.: Dr. Weinstein discussed her work as a Professor at the University of Utah, her background in Neurology and her work as Chief of Holistic Medicine at the VA Medical Center. She discussed how the VA was managing patients who are on long term opiates.
3. Corey Dahl, PA-C: Mr. Dahl discussed his work at the Omega Interventional Pain Clinic and the pain clinic Sacred Circle Health Care. He discussed his desire to have more opportunities to offer patients long acting opiates as opposed to short acting opiates.

##### b. **Board Discussion:**

1. The board discussed merging the different proposed PA criteria from Dr. Susan Siegfried, Dr. Keith Tolman and Dr. Steve Lore into one, final criteria sheet.
2. The board discussed adding a requirement of a “treatment plan” from the doctor and patient. A lengthy discussion ensued about what a treatment plan was and what specific criteria would need to be addressed in order for the PA request to be approved.
3. Dr. Keith Tolman made a motion that the board accept the proposed PA criteria, including any changes and amendments that were made during the discussion. Dr. Mike Symond seconded. All board members voted in favor of this motion.

5. **Akynzeo:** Melissa Archer from the University of Utah DRRC presented drug information including disease symptoms, studies, side effects, indications and other information about Akynzeo. Data was also presented about the utilization of this drug in the Utah Medicaid population.

a. **Public Comment:** N/A

b. **Board Discussion:**

1. Dr. Keith Tolman asked the University of Utah DRRC to redact any cost information from their report.
2. Dr. Mike Symond noticed the low utilization of the medication, and suggested that there be no PA criteria established for now.
3. Dr. Steve Lore made a motion that no PA criteria will be placed on the drug Akynzeo. Katherine Smith, Pharm.D. seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor of this motion.

6. **Public Meeting Adjourned**

7. **The next meeting is scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

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Audio recordings of DUR meetings are available online at:

[https://medicaid.utah.gov/pharmacy/drug-utilization-review-board?p=DUR Board Audio Recordings/](https://medicaid.utah.gov/pharmacy/drug-utilization-review-board?p=DUR%20Board%20Audio%20Recordings/)