



STATE MEDICAID P&T COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, August 19, 2010
7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
Cannon Health Building
Room 114



MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

Beth Johnson, R.Ph.

Michael Flynn, M.D.

Karen Gunning, PharmD.

Kort Delost, R.Ph.

Raymond Ward, M.D.

Lisa Hulbert, R.Ph.

Brandon Jennings, PharmD.

Board Members Excused:

Ellie Brownstein, M.D.

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

Brian Hardy, R.Ph., MBA

Jennifer Zeleny, CPhT, MPH

Tim Morley, R.Ph.

University of Utah Drug Information Center Staff Present:

Gary Oderda, PharmD.

Melissa Archer, PharmD.

Other Individuals Present:

Chad Michina, Alcon Labs

Brett Brewer, EMD Serono

Susan Stone, Allergan

Jennifer Maynard, Alcon Labs

Rachel Bevis, AstraZeneca

Meeting conducted by: Karen Gunning, PharmD, Co-Chairperson.

1. DUR Board Update: Lisa Hulbert addressed the Committee. The DUR Board met on August 12 and discussed me-too isomers. The Board moved that Medicaid be able to pre-authorize me-too isomers. The Board also removed PA criteria for Zofran and Lovenox, since almost all requests are approved and cost reductions occurred. The DUR Board has recently approved PA's for Vimpat, Ampyra, Zovirax Ointment, Tysabri, Colcrys, and Uloric. Those PA's should become effective soon.

Karen asked for clarification on the me-too isomer policy. Lisa stated that there are a lot of new drugs coming to market that are the active isomer of a racemic mixture already on the market. In those cases, dose optimization should be tried on the racemic mixture, or the patient should try a different chemical entity altogether if the racemic drug was ineffective.

Dr. Oderda added that underlying concern that there is no therapeutic advantage over the racemic drug, although that can be possible in limited cases. The suggestion was that the single isomer be under PA until a clear advantage is proven.

The Committee commented that a lot of mental health drugs fall into this category. Medicaid did say that they will not PA mental health drugs due to statute. Additionally, cost considerations could be weighted by staff in deciding whether or not to cover a me-too isomer that is cost-favorable (i.e. Dexilant).

Prodrugs and metabolites will be considered over the next few months.

2. PDL Update: Tim Morley addressed the Committee. The PDL has been successful to the point that it has stressed resources. Because resources were not sufficient to handle PA requests, Medicaid held off implementing recommendations for the PDL and new DUR PA's. Now that the issues have resolved, more recommendations will be moving forward.
3. Nasal Antihistamines: Melissa Archer addressed the Committee and presented materials prepared by the University of Utah College of Pharmacy on the topic of Nasal Antihistamines.

Karen Gunning asked if there are any guidelines on concomitant use of oral and nasal antihistamines. The College of Pharmacy did not consider that.

Karen Gunning asked if they are above or below corticosteroids on recommendations. The corticosteroids are more effective than nasal antihistamines, but these drugs are safer and have fewer adverse effects.

There was no public comment on the nasal antihistamines.

The Committee asked for clarification on the utilization data that was provided.

Dr. Ward moved that due to the lack of evidence on the matter, the Committee finds no difference in safety and efficacy between the agents.

Karen asked if the difference in approved ages should be considered, since pediatrics could be an area where these drugs are attractive due to the unfounded fears of corticosteroids. Dr. Flynn did not think that it does not concern him due to children's aversion to nasal medications. He did not think that a nasal antihistamine or a corticosteroid would be prescribed by someone other than an allergist.

Dr. Flynn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by Kort DeLost, Brandon Jennings, Lisa Hulbert, Dr. Ward, Karen Gunning, Dr. Flynn, and Beth Johnson.

Karen suggested a DUR review of this area to rule out inappropriate combination uses of nasal antihistamines, nasal corticosteroids, and oral corticosteroids.

4. Ocular Antihistamines: Melissa Archer addressed the Committee and presented the University of Utah College of Pharmacy's findings on ocular antihistamines, including OTC Zaditor.

The Committee asked if these agents are used in children. Dr. Flynn said that it is not typical due to the difficulty associated with administering eye drops to children.

Karen Gunning asked if there were real-world adherence trials. These trials were not conducted.

Karen asked if there were enough clinical differences to warrant a separate motion for agents that have mast cell stabilizing properties. Melissa did not think so.

Dr. Ward asked if OTC Zaditor was covered. Jennifer stated that no OTC ocular antihistamines are currently covered, but that it is possible to cover it in the future. Dr. Ward stated that he frequently recommends the OTC Zaditor to his patients. The pharmacists stated that they most frequently dispense Patanol/Pataday, but recommend Zaditor.

The P&T Committee recommended looking into the possibility of covering OTC Zaditor if it is cost favorable for Medicaid. Lisa stated that Medicaid will definitely consider Zaditor if the cost is favorable, and does not need a specific motion or verbage in the motion to do this.

Dr. Ward moved that the Committee finds that all of the agents are equally safe and efficacious, and recommends that Medicaid chose based on cost, but include Zaditor and olopatadine based on current usage patterns.

Dr. Flynn stated that he did not think that it was unsafe or would cause patient upset if there was a lot of forced switching in this class.

Karen stated that the Committee may wish to only recommend that either ketotifen or olopatadine be included based on the mast cell stabilizing properties.

Dr. Flynn moved that all of the drugs are equally safe and effective, and that a final product selection should include either olopatadine or ketotifen. Brandon Jennings seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by Kort DeLost, Brandon Jennings, Lisa Hulbert, Dr. Ward, Karen Gunning, Dr. Flynn, and Beth Johnson.

5. Review and approval of minutes: The minutes from July 2010 were reviewed. Dr. Ward moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Flynn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by Kort DeLost, Brandon Jennings, Lisa Hulbert, Dr. Ward, Karen Gunning, Dr. Flynn, and Beth Johnson.
6. Future Schedule: Lisa Hulbert presented the future schedule, which includes Statins, Hormone Replacement for Menopause, and Diabetes Test Supplies.

The Committee did not wish to review glucose meters due to the lack of clinical evidence in the area. Karen moved to not consider meters. Brandon Jennings seconded the motions. The motion was unanimously approved by Kort DeLost, Brandon Jennings, Lisa Hulbert, Dr. Ward, Karen Gunning, Dr. Flynn, and Beth Johnson.

Gary Oderda clarified that the Statin meeting would only focus on the new addition to the class. A class review cannot occur by the time of the next meeting. Karen did

not think that there was enough new material to justify a completely class review. The combinations were all unique enough that they do not require a complete clinical review. They can be treated as stand-alone agents for the purposes of contracting.

The Committee requested an update on Health Care Reform from Tim Morley.

Karen suggested that there are some ways to break up hormone replacement therapy by delivery route and stated she will work with Gary Oderda to achieve this.

September's meeting will consist of Livalo (pitavastatin) and Tim's presentation on Health Care Reform.

Karen suggested that the OTC Drug List be revised and reconsidered, and that an NDC list be included with it. The layout needs to be revisited as well, as it is currently difficult to understand. There are new recommendations on children's vitamins that should cause more of them to be included, and recommendations against children's cough and cold medicine that should cause them to be excluded.

Next Meeting Set for Thursday, September 16, 2010
Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Zeleny