



# MINUTES

Utah Department of Health  
Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

**Thursday, January 15, 2015**  
**7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.**  
**Cannon Health Building**  
**Room 128**

**Committee Members Present:**

Lisa Hunt, R.Ph.	Jameson Rice, Pharm.D.
Kort Delost, R.Ph.	Roger Martineau, M.D.
Elizabeth Young, Pharm.D.	Ellie Brownstein, M.D.
Beth Johnson, R.Ph.	

**Committee Members Excused:**

Julia Ozbolt, M.D.

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

Robyn Seely, Pharm.D.	Trevor Smith, CPhT
Merelynn Berrett, RN	Heather Santacruz, RN

**University of Utah Drug Information Center Staff Present:**

Melissa Archer, Pharm.D.	Gary Oderda, UofU
Joanita Lake, UofU	

**Other Individuals Present:**

Paul Bragoli, Indivior	Pamela Vincent, Indivior
Gregg Gitter, Alkermes	Robert Nohavec, UofU Health Plans
Dan Faber, Spinal Interventions	Matt Andersen, Alkermes
Nina Bowman, VA, SLC	Mindy Peterson, UofU Health Plans
Dave Felt, DSAMH	Traci Turner, VA, SLC
Kenny Wilson, UofU Student	Mark Boesen, Alkermes
Charissa Anne, J&J	David Byron, Orexo
Cody Ball, Select Health	Chris Stock, VA

Meeting conducted by: Kort Delost

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- 1. Review and Approval of November Minutes:** Minutes for November were reviewed. Beth Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. Roger Martineau seconded the motion. All in favor.
- 2. Housekeeping:**
  - Lisa Hunt said that the 2015 Utah Medicaid Preferred Drug List is live on the website.

- b. Lisa Hunt reminded everyone to sign in and to take an agenda.
3. **Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board update:** The DUR board reviewed MS treatments during the January meeting. The same topic will be discussed in the February DUR meeting.
4. **Substance Abuse Treatment Agents:** Melissa Archer presented a review of the Substance Abuse Treatment agents. She presented peer-reviewed research regarding the safety and efficacy of each agent, disease-state treatment guidelines Utah Medicaid utilization data.
5. **Public Comments:**
- a. Pamela Vincent (Indivior, Suboxone) - She presented information about Suboxone and offered to answer questions from the board.
    - i. Lisa Hunt asked about maintenance therapy and if there are any studies or approved usage for long term maintenance therapy.
    - ii. Pamela Vincent said that while there is a lot of discussion about maintenance and potential benefits, there isn't anything published.
  - b. Mark Boesen (Alkermes, Vivitrol) - He presented information about Vivitrol and offered to answer questions from the board.
    - i. Discussion with Mark Boesen about how Vivitrol is available.
    - ii. For Utah Medicaid, it is only available through a PA to be billed in the physician's office with a buy and bill method.
    - iii. Mark Boesen said some states will allow the pharmacist to administer the drug. In Utah that may require a rule or policy change with the board of pharmacy.
  - c. David Byrum (Orexo, Zubsolv) - He presented information about Zubsolv and offered to answer questions from the board.
  - d. Dan Favor MD – As a practicing doctor, he presented experience in opioid addiction treatment and the benefits of the agents under discussion.
6. **Committee discussion:**
- a. Lisa Hunt presented the other States report. She compared the PDL listing and PA requirements from other States to the current Utah Medicaid coverage status.
  - b. Roger Martineau said that at his practice, he does not prescribe or administer treatment for opioid dependence. He said that they have specialists who will work with patients with the problem.
  - c. Kort Delost clarified that only the oral agents are under review, so Vivitrol is not up for discussion.
  - d. Beth Johnson said that chemical dependence is a very serious problem within the Utah population, and people who are affected are often very difficult patients. She said that what is being discussed today, is a narrow piece of the chemical dependence treatment method.
  - e. Beth Johnson also said that in her experience, she has seen that the agents discussed today are equally safe and effective.
  - f. Beth Johnson made a motion saying that the oral agents discussed are equally safe

- and efficacious. Beth Young seconds. All in favor.
- g. Lisa Hunt said that Suboxone has the most utilization as it has been preferred, and has been on the market for a longer period of time.
  - h. Lisa Hunt said that it would be possible to have a grandfather clause for people who are currently on one of the agents. This will help with medication adherence.
  - i. Ellie Brownstein made a motion to grandfather people who have started on an agent, so they will not be stopped during the course of treatment in the event that the PDL standing changes. Beth Young seconded the motion. All in favor.
  - j. Beth Johnson then made a motion to include a single agent on the PDL. Roger Martineau seconded the motion. All in favor.
  - k. Beth Young made a motion to request a DUR review of the single agent buprenorphine as the PA sheet only considers pregnant women and not other patients. Beth Johnson seconds the motion. All in favor.
  - l. Jameson Rice asked if Butrans should be discussed, but it will not be as it is not indicated for opioid dependency treatment.
7. **Meeting Adjourned** – Jameson Rice made a motion to close the meeting. Roger Martineau seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned
8. Next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2015. Thiazide Diuretic, Loop Diuretic and Potassium-Sparing Diuretic agents will be discussed.

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Minutes prepared by Trevor Smith

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