|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MinutesDrug Utilization Review Board MeetingDATE: December 11, 2024 |  |



**Meeting Purpose:** Quarterly Drug Utilization Board Meeting

Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. by Rebekah Rice, RPh

The meeting was conducted under Massachusetts Public Meeting Law requirements.

**Attendance:** Mehmet Furkan Burbak, MD; Melissa Coyle, PharmD; Timothy Fensky, RPh; Colleen Labelle, MSN, RN-BC, CARN; Lori Lewicki, RPh; Sarah M McGee, MD; Rebekah Rice, RPh, CDCES; Christy Stine, MD, PhD

**Absent:** Laura Spring, MD; Karen Ryle, MS, RPh

**Agenda Items:**

* Welcome and Introductory Remarks
* Minutes
* Growth Hormone Quality Assurance Analysis
* Antipsychotics Quality Assurance Analysis
* Anemia of Chronic Kidney Disease Quality Assurance Analysis and Clinical Update
* MHDL Update
* **DUR Operational Update**
* **MassHealth Update**
* **Hepatitis Antiviral Agents Assurance Analysis**
* **Open Forum**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| **Minutes** | Motion to approve the minutes for September 2024 was made by Sarah M McGee, MD and was seconded by Timothy Fensky, RPh. | **Follow-up**Minutes are approved. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Growth Hormone (GH) Quality Assurance Analysis | Growth Hormone Quality Assurance by Dr. Kaelyn BossThis evaluation of current medical literature provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state.  | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion* Reviewed available GH agents and their indications
* Compared long-acting GH agents
* Summarized MassHealth management of the class
* Discussed updates to MassHealth management for January 2025

Conclusions* There currently are many available GH agents, the majority of which are administered once daily.
* GH agents are generally used for management of short stature in pediatric patients, while in adults there is a broader range of symptoms that may be targeted.
* There are three FDA-approved long-acting GH agents that are available; all are approved for pediatric growth hormone deficiency (GHD) and one is approved for adult GHD.
* MassHealth criteria varies by indication.
* Effective January 6, 2025, MassHealth will manage short-acting GH with preferred drug designation for Genotropin® and will manage long-acting GH with preferred drug designation for Skytrofa®, and Sogroya®.
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

?

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Antipsychotics Quality Assurance Analysis** | Antipsychotics Quality Assurance Analysis by Dr. Amy DionneThis of current medical literature provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state.  | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Provided overview of antipsychotic medications
* Reviewed most current treatment guidelines
* Summarized the MassHealth antipsychotic class management
* Discussed trends in utilization and prior authorizations (PA)
* Reviewed new product additions
* Provided a look to the future: pipeline overview

Conclusions* The antipsychotic class has been managed through a variety of mechanisms, including PA on branded products, special formulations, quantity limits, and polypharmacy.
* Our trends in utilization and PAs demonstrated appropriate use of medications and guidelines.
* The FDA approval of Cobenfy® provided a new way to treat schizophrenia
* Additional products with new mechanisms of action are in the pipeline.

Questions* The board members discussed factors they consider when prescribing initial or adjunctive therapy (e.g., when their patient is tolerant of a medication, but not seeing a significant change in symptoms).
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Anemia of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Quality Assurance and Clinical Update** | Anemia of Chronic Kidney Disease Quality Assurance Analysis and Clinical Update by Dr. Edward PudimThis evaluation of current medical literature provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state.  | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Provided a background on anemia of CKD
* Described current medications and medications in the pipeline for the treatment of anemia of CKD
* Summarized anemia of CKD treatment recommendations from clinical practice guidelines
* Reviewed current MassHealth management and findings from two QA analyses for medications to treat anemia of CKD
* Discussed recommended changes to MassHealth management of medications for anemia of CKD

Conclusions* Anemia is a common complication in patients with CKD on dialysis and is associated with increased risk of CKD progression, major adverse cardiovascular event (MACE), and mortality.
* Treatment for anemia of CKD starts by addressing correctable causes, such as iron deficiency, before considering use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents (ESAs) or hypoxia-inducible factor prolyl hydroxylase inhibitors (HIF-PHIs).
* ESAs and HIF-PHIs all carry a black-box warning for increased risk of death, cardiovascular (CV) and thromboembolic events, and stroke, along with warnings for use in patients with active or recent malignancy.
* ESAs are suggested as first-line treatment over HIF-PHIs in the draft 2025 Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) guideline, which aligns with current MassHealth management of these agents.
* MassHealth approval criteria were updated to assess for appropriate ESA syringe or vial size and to manage Retacrit® (epoetin alfa-epbx) at parity with Epogen® (epoetin alfa), based on pricing changes.
* Vafseo® (vadadustat) will be added to the MassHealth Drug List with approval criteria matching Jesduvroq® (daprodustat).
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MassHealth Drug List (MHDL) Update** | MHDL Update by Dr. Yrielda MoravaMHDL overview included new additions, changes in PA status, and related attachment updates to be implemented with a recent publication rollout. | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Effective January 6, 2025:
	+ There were 20 additions to the MHDL; and
	+ There were 20 changes in PA status.
* There were several changes to Coverage Status for Brand Name Preferred Over Generic List; FDA”A”-rated Generics; 90-day Initiative; and Updates and Changes to the MHDL.
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DUR Operational Update** | DUR Operational Update by Dr. Jeannine BeauregardDUR operational overview included statistics associated with PA review and PA response, and call center metrics. | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Operational statistics, including PA and call center metrics up to December 31, 2024, were discussed.
* All metrics met or exceeded service level agreements.
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MassHealth Update** | MassHealth Update by Dr. Kimberly LenzMassHealth Update is a summary of recent developments in MassHealth in the context of pharmacy, managed care, or public health.  | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Reviewed current clinical program initiatives
* Provided direct negotiation status update
* Discussed operational updates
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Hepatitis Antiviral Agents Quality Assurance** | Hepatitis Antiviral Quality Assurance Analysis by Dr. Collin JerardThis evaluation of current medical literature provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state.  | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion * Provided an overview of hepatitis C virus (HCV)
* Reviewed current management of HCV direct-acting antivirals (DAAs)
* Summarized recent clinical literature on HCV
* Identified trends in pharmacy utilization and PA requests
* Highlighted upcoming changes to MassHealth management of HCV DAAs

Conclusion* Preferred HCV DAAs account for nearly all the pharmacy utilization.
* Point of sale (POS) rules were recently updated to remove criteria looking for drug-drug interactions within pharmacy claims history.
* POS rules allow most claims for select DAAs to pay at the pharmacy without PA as of October 1, 2024.
* MassHealth guidelines will be updated to be aligned with the most recent AASLD/IDSA HCV Guidance on treatment interruptions in treatment-naïve patients, without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis, receiving Mavyret® or sofosbuvir/velpatasvir.
 | **Conclusion**The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

| **Agenda Item** |  **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Open Forum** | Open Forum | **Follow-up**Informational/Advisory |

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mylissa Price

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_