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| Minutes  Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting  DATE: September 11, 2024 |  |



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

Meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. by Laura Spring, MD

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; Laura Spring, MD; Rebekah Rice, RPh, CDCES; Karen Ryle, MS, RPh; Christy Stine, MD, PhD

**Absent:**

**Agenda Items:**

* Welcome and Introductory Remarks
* Guest Speaker
* Minutes
* Pipeline Update
* Annual Special Populations Update
* RSV Quality Assurance Analysis and Seasonal Update
* Respiratory Agents, Inhaled Quality Assurance Analysis
* MHDL Update
* **DUR Operational Update**
* **MassHealth Update**
* **Hypnotics Quality Assurance Analysis**
* **Open Forum**

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| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow Up** |
| **Guest Speakers** | * Daniel Bassoff, Medical Knowledge Care Team at Sarepta Therapeutics, spoke on Elevidys. | **Follow Up**  Informational/Advisory |

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

| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Follow- up** |
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| Pipeline Update | Pipeline Update by Dr. Katelyn Meyer  This Pipeline Update provided a brief overview of clinical and regulatory updates regarding select pharmaceutical pipeline agents in late-stage development. | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * Overview of Investigational Agents giroctocogene fitelparvovec and UX111 * Discussion of Potential Impact of the Agents   Conclusions   * If approved, giroctocogene fitelparvovec would become the second gene therapy approved for hemophilia A, joining Roctavian® (valcotogogene roxaparvovec). * If approved, UX111 would become the first and only FDA-approved therapy for Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS) IIIA. | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **Annual Special Populations Update** | Annual Special Populations Update by Dr. Bhakti Patel and Dr. Kaelyn Boss  This overview was a summary of the current structure of the Drug Utilization Review Special Populations Program. It summarized clinical outcomes of the program over the past year. | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * Provided annual overview of the MassHealth Special Populations Program * Reviewed financial and clinical outcomes of pharmacist interventions * Outlined the Prior Authorization (PA) Recertification Outreach Program   Conclusions/Recommendations   * The Special Populations Program encourages collaboration among MassHealth programs to improve member outcomes. * Outcomes suggest that the MassHealth Special Populations Program has a positive clinical impact on MassHealth members and potential cost savings for MassHealth. * Plan to continue evaluation of the MassHealth Special Populations program to identify opportunities to expand services and evaluate outcomes. | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Quality Assurance (QA) Analysis and Seasonal Update** | RSV Quality Assurance Analysis and Seasonal Update by Dr. Warren Smith  This overview was an evaluation of current medical literature and provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state. | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * Reviewed the latest prophylactic options available for the prevention of RSV * Examined MassHealth utilization for the RSV prophylactic agents * Discussed American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations * Provided an overview of the RSV pipeline   Conclusions/Recommendations   * There are now multiple agents to prevent RSV lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) in infants (Beyfortus®, Synagis®, maternal immunization with Abrysvo®). * For the 2024-2025 RSV season, PA criteria for Synagis® will require a step-through of Beyfortus®; Beyfortus® will be available without PA for members <8 months and PA will be required for members between 8 and 19 months. * Abrysvo®, Arexvy®, and mResvia® are available for adults ≥60 years of age (one of which, Arexvy®, is approved for patients ≥50 years of age).   + PA will be required for members outside of the above patient populations.   + ACIP recommendations for RSV vaccines include vaccination for patients 60 to 74 years of age who are at increased risk and all patients ≥75 years of age. * The pipeline includes investigational agents, such as Clesrovimab, which have the potential to impact the RSV prophylactic landscape in infants even further. | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **Inhaled Respiratory Agents** | Inhaled Respiratory Agents by Dr. Karen Stevens  This overview was an evaluation of current medical literature and provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state. | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * Provided an overview of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) treatment * Described current MassHealth management for inhaled respiratory agents * Presented current MassHealth utilization and PA summaries * Reviewed subanalyses of short-acting beta-agonist (SABA) utilization, product discontinuations, and pipeline * Discussed recommendations following QA analysis   Conclusions/Recommendations   * Effective November 12, 2024, remove PA from Asmanex® Twisthaler to allow access to additional inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) inhaler, given shortages of Asmanex® HFA. * Symbicort® will be listed with PD designation effective November 12, 2024. * Future SABA analysis will include subgroups of interest (e.g., diagnosis, age, TPL, etc.). | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **MassHealth Drug List (MHDL) Update** | MHDL Update by Dr. Chris Nelson  MHDL 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 October 1, 2024:   + There were 16 additions the MHDL Drug list.   + There were 17 changes in PA status. * There were several changes to Coverage Status for Medical Billing, Brand Name Preferred Over Generic List; 90-day Initiative; and Updates and Changes to the MHDL. | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **DUR Operational Update** | DUR Operational Update by Dr. Kristen Danis  DUR 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. |

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| **MassHealth Update** | MassHealth Update by Dr. Kimberly Lenz  MassHealth 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. |

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| **Hypnotics Quality Assurance Analysis** | Oncology Immunotherapy Quality Assurance Analysis by Dr. Amy Dionne  This overview was an evaluation of current medical literature and provided a brief overview of new guideline recommendations in this disease state. | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * This presentation was tabled until the next DUR Board meeting. | **Conclusion**  The board reviewed and accepted the presentation. |

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| **Open Forum** | Open Forum | **Follow-up**  Informational/Advisory |
| Action | Discussion   * This presentation was tabled until the next DUR Board meeting. | **Conclusion**  N/A |

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mylissa Price

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