Special Commission to Study Switching Medications
Created pursuant to Section 195 of
Chapter 133 of the Acts of 2016

Thursday, September 14, 2017
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
6th floor, 100 Hancock St, Quincy

Minutes

Chair: Paul Jeffrey
Scribe: Nancy Schiff
Commission Members in Attendance: P Jeffrey, E Kiriakopoulos, D Schiel, P Summergrad L Stairs (phone) S Sadownik (phone), C Griffin (phone), K. Krishnamurthy (phone)
Commission Members not in Attendance: D Mauch
Others in Attendance: N Schiff, J Oros (AbbVie), K Bell (BCB Government Relations, Inc.)

Meeting Summary:

1. The group reviewed and approved the minutes from the August 10, 2017 meeting.

2. The action items from the last meeting were read and discussed during the group discussion.

3. The group discussed next steps and deadlines for completing the deliverables identified in the previous meetings.
    a. Literature review
        i. The group will review what we have collected to date and do a gap analysis to see if more information is needed.
        ii. Complete by October 1

    b. Surveys/Questionnaires
        i. The purpose of the surveys is to gather information about the concerns of various stakeholders and to help the group structure the Listening Session.
        ii. There is not adequate time to compile validated survey instruments to use for the report to the legislature.
        iii. The group reviewed the questions for clinicians and health plans and how to distribute the surveys.
        iv. The survey from the Patient Access and Safety Coalition has been sent out to people in Massachusetts.
            a. The group discussed if the survey would be biased towards people who had negative experiences with non-medical switching.

b. This concern will be addressed by noting the author of the survey and the population responding when discussing results.
c. We need to communicate with the Patient Coalition about when to stop collecting responses so we have time to use the results.
d. Send out surveys by Oct. 1 (still need to determine when they should be returned).

c. Listening Session
   i. The group agreed that the meeting should be in November
   ii. The group discussed having it in the evening so patients could attend
   iii. To be completed in early November (date TBD)

d. Data Analysis
   i. One month will be needed to do the analysis
   ii. The database does not include tiering
   iii. There is a code for whether a drug is on a formulary, but not sure about the reliability
   iv. It would be helpful to have a list of FDB therapeutic classes to run the data
   v. There are no indicators on the APCD pharmacy data files that relate to non-medical switching.
   vi. We discussed trying to hit a November 1 deadline for APCD analytics pending a final decision on which FDB therapeutic classes we should focus on.

e. Writing recommendations
   i. Complete draft report by December 1 to allow review and sign-off by appropriate parties.

4. Next steps and Action items
   a. Action items to be completed by October 1 were assigned, and sent to the group by email.

5. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul L. Jeffrey, PharmD