

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS)
Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board
Quarterly Meeting
May 10th, 2011

The quarterly meeting of the ODJFS DUR Board was called to order at 12:05 PM in room West B&C of the 31st floor of the Riffe Building, 77 S. High St. Columbus, Ohio. Michael Farrell, MD and Kevin Mitchell, RPh presided. The following Board members were present:

David Brookover, RPh
Michael Farrell, MD
Thomas Gretter, MD
Robert Kubasak, RPh
J. Layne Moore, MD
Lenard Presutti, DO

Also present were Margaret Scott, RPh, DUR Administrator, Jill Griffith, RPh, DUR Director, and from the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, Pam Heaton RPh, PhD. Approximately 16 observers were present, most representing pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Reading, Correction & Approval of Previous Minutes:

The November 17th, 2010, DUR Board minutes were approved. (1st T. Gretter, 2nd J. Moore).

DUR Committee Report:

J. Griffith gave the DUR committee report.

The February 2011 DUR committee re-reviewed 140 profiles of patients taking proton pump inhibitors with no attempt to taper. Sixty-four percent of patient improved, 28% did not improve and 8% were lost to follow up. Improvement was defined as a decrease in dose or discontinuation of PPI therapy.

The March DUR Committee performed a quality assurance meeting. The committee reviewed reports to see what the population looks like, assess the different drug categories and where the areas of spend are. This helps the committee get an overview of the program for the year.

The April DUR committee re-reviewed 108 profiles of patients taking Suboxone or Subutex with any other controlled substance or tramadol. Thirty-six percent of patients improved, 36% were not improved and 28% were lost to follow up. Improvement was defined as a decrease in the number of controlled substance prescriptions. Many of these patients were off narcotics completely or were on what can be described as maintenance doses of benzodiazepines or stimulants. Physician response was generally positive and most felt the information provided was useful. Comments included “this patient

understands she can't see other doctors for narcotics while on Suboxone" or "I will not write Vicodin for this patient again". Overall the physicians seem appreciative of the information.

The May DUR Committee met this morning. The Committee is re-reviewing 381 profiles of patients identified to be potentially Dr. Shopping. This re-review will take two months.

The Board unanimously approved the final draft Statin letter, table and response form. The Statin mailing is targeting 467 physicians with two or more patients with previous myocardial infarction who are not taking a statin.

The Board reviewed preliminary results from the 2,502 letter stimulant mailing. Prescribers have returned 1,306 response forms from the 2,502 letter mailing (52 %).

Health Plan Policy:

M. Scott announced that as of October 1st, 2011, the State will transition the pharmacy benefit back to the managed care plans. Medicaid Director McCarthy understands that one list of covered drugs is very important to the prescriber and pharmacy communities and has asked that the managed care plans work together to have as much agreement in their drug lists as possible. This should allow the managed care plans the creativity and flexibility they need and meets the needs of the prescribers and pharmacists. Some transitional period is expected. Dr. Moore expressed concern about epilepsy patients in particular, many with great difficulty finding the right agents to control seizures and then being forced to switch agents. He does not feel this is humane or cost effective. He is willing to provide expert testimony.

Unfinished Business:

Ms. Scott shared with the Board the Best Evidence for Advancing Childhealth in Ohio Now (BEACON) group mission statement. She also discussed the Pediatric Psychiatric Network, their consult services and guideline development. Dr. Farrell added that mental health in the state is at a crisis level. M. Scott said that the concept of a medical home, care coordination, cost savings and improving care are priorities for the state. The DUR program intends to work collaboratively with these groups to improve pediatric psychiatric care.

At the last DUR Board meeting, P. Heaton reviewed a medication possession ratio report outlining how Ohio patients are doing with HIV/AIDS medication compliance. Overall the HIV population appears to be compliant. A review of the medical literature shows that those patients with 95% compliance or higher have significantly better virologic outcome, increased CD4 counts and decreased days in the hospital. The Board decided to move forward with this review and attempt to improve compliance with goal medication possession ratios above 95%.

Dr. Farrell suggested the Board consider a review focused on antibiotics, such as cephalixin resistance for cutaneous staph infections. J. Griffith stated that one topic

suggested by a P&T member was to look at patients with viral diagnoses treated with antibiotics. We can look at this topic more in depth.

Announcements:

The third and fourth quarter DUR Board meetings are scheduled for noon on Tuesday, September 13th and Tuesday, November 15th. Location to be announced.

Adjournment:

K. Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 12:45 PM. (1st D. Brookover, 2nd M. Farrell).

Respectfully submitted:

Jill R.K. Griffith B.S., Pharm.D., DUR Program Director