



Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2023

DUR Board Members in attendance:

In-person: Tim Bourke, R.P., Tom Dunn, R.P., Anthony Ross, M.D., Robert Wergin, M.D.

Virtual: Jennifer Meyfeldt, M.D., Charlie Moore, R.P., Dave Randolph, R.P.

DUR Board Members not in attendance: Bruce Houghton, M.D.

Nebraska Medicaid & LTC attendees in person: Carisa Schweitzer Masek, R.P., Deputy Director Population Health; Leah Spencer, R.N., Program Specialist; Dianne Garside, R.P.

Virtual: Spencer Moore, R.P.

Contracted attendees in person: Nikia Bennette-Carter, R.P., Magellan Rx Management. Gerette Augusta, R.P., Healthy Blue Nebraska.

Virtual: Jamie Benson, R.P., Nebraska Total Care, Elanah Figueroa, Account Manager, Magellan RX Management; Bernadette Ueda, R.P., United Health Care.

Public visitors in attendance in person: Melissa Basil, Abbvie; Kurt Hendrickson, Abbvie; Don Mcaffrey, Vertex; Shelly Nickerson, Marinus; Randall Roth, Merck. Other virtual attendees.

I. Opening and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Carisa Schweitzer Masek at 6:30 pm. A copy of the Open-Meetings Act was available.

II. Conflict of Interest or changes

No changes in conflict of interest were declared.

III. Agenda approval

The Agenda was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes from DUR Board March, 2023 meeting.

The minutes were unanimously approved with correction of name Tom Dunn.

The May 2023 meeting was cancelled.

V. Update on Recommendations from previous meeting(s)

No updates.

VI. Special Topics:

A. PHE Unwind update

Carisa Schweitzer Masek provided an update on the end of the public health emergency (PHE). Some Medicaid members who were previously enrolled under the PHE are now not enrolled. DHHS is reaching out to members to provide information on re-enrollment procedures. Wergin suggests that a DUR project could be implemented how previous Medicaid members under expansion who are now not enrolled could be affected by barriers to access to medications and compliance with medication treatment compared to when they were enrolled with Medicaid.

VII. Retrospective DUR:

A. Old Business- none

B. New Business:

- i. **Hepatitis C:** Revisions of the drafted Hepatitis C medication criteria and authorization forms were presented and discussed. Revisions include removing required psychosocial treatment readiness evaluation and PREP-C tool; abstinence of alcohol and substance use requirements. Required requirements include documentation of counseling to the member on the harms of alcohol/substance use behaviors and encouraging members to abstain from alcohol before and after antiviral treatment; and supporting members for alcohol/substance use counseling during antiviral treatment.

After Board discussion, a motion by Anthony Ross with second from Tim Bourke to approve the Hepatitis C criteria form as written. Vote as follows: Bourke- yes, Dunn- yes, Mayfeldt- yes, Moore- yes, Randolph-yes, Ross- yes, Wergin- yes.

A motion was made by Tom Dunn and a first and a second by Anthony Ross to approve the Hepatitis C prior authorization form as written. Vote as follows: Bourke- yes, Dunn- yes, Mayfeldt- yes, Moore- yes, Randolph-yes, Ross- yes, Wergin- yes

Discussion was had on implementation on date of the revised criteria. Voting was unanimous for an implementation date of January 1, 2024. Robert Wergin requests that the State bring back the cost (without rebate) for Hepatitis C treatment. Tom Dunn suggests that this request could be tied with the previous request with previously enrolled members after the PHE ended. There was no public comment.

- ii. **Buprenorphine:** Revisions of the Suboxone/Buprenorphine drafted prior authorization and consent forms were presented and discussed. Discussion was presented around the requirement of a patient signed contract or informed consent statement. A motion by Anthony Ross was made to amend the titles of the prior authorization and consent forms to mirror the PDL class category 'Opioid Dependence Treatments' and a second by Tom Dunn.
Voting as follows: Bourke- yes, Dunn- yes, Mayfeldt- yes, Moore- yes, Randolph-yes, Ross- yes, Wergin- no.

After discussion, a motion was made by Wergin to amend the Informed Consent form to add Nucynta to the acknowledgement of mixing medications with other controlled pain prescription medications paragraph. A second was made by Tom Dunn. Voting as follows: Bourke- yes, Dunn- yes, Mayfeldt- yes, Moore- yes, Randolph-yes, Ross- yes, Wergin- yes.

VIII. Prospective DUR

A. Old Business- none

B. New Business:

i. New Drug Review: Vowst

State coverage criteria was presented and discussed on Vowst. There was no public comment.

IX. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12th, 2023.

X. Concerns & Comments

Board: Tim Bourke expressed appreciation of the meeting discussion.

DUR Director and State representatives: None

Magellan representatives: None

Managed Care Organization (MCO) representatives: None

Public attendees: None

XI. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn meeting was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned by Schweitzer Masek at 8:19 pm.