



Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting Minutes November 14, 2023

DUR Board Members in attendance: A quorum of five voting members were in attendance.

In person: Tim Bourke, R.P., Tom Dunn, R.P., Charlie Moore, R.P.

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

DUR Board Members not in attendance: Robert Wergin, 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.; Spencer Moore, R.P.

Contracted attendees: Gerette Augusta, R.P., Healthy Blue Nebraska; Bernadette Ueda, R.P., United Health Care. Virtual: Jamie Benson, R.P., Nebraska Total Care. Nikia Bennette-Carter, R.P., Jessica Czechowski, R.P., Magellan RX Management.

Public visitors in attendance in person: Richie C, Otsuka; Camille Kerr, Regeneron; Shelly Nickerson, Marinus; Gary Parenteau, Dexcom; Chris Stanfield, Supernus; other virtual attendees.

I. Opening and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Carisa Schweitzer at 6:31 pm. The meeting was held at the Best Western Plus Lincoln Inn & Suites in Lincoln, NE. 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 September 2023 meeting

The minutes were unanimously approved.

V. Update on Recommendations from previous meeting(s)

No updates.

VI. Special Topics

A. PHE Unwind Update

Schweitzer Masek provided an update on the end of the public health emergency (PHE) unwind. She directs that further questions can be directed to the State.

B. SUPPORT ACT

Spencer Moore presents data on concurrent use of Opioid and Gabapentin or Pregabalin for Nebraska Medicaid members. Tom Dunn requests that in future averages are presented. There was a request to use less broad age bands which would include 19-64 and 65 -70 and older and to also report data where prescriptions were prescribed and administered within a skilled nursing facility.

C. Adult Vaccine Coverage

Leah Spencer gave information on the coverage of adult vaccines as part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) which requires coverage of The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines as of October 1, 2023. The CDC also has recommendations for maternal RSV vaccine. Medicaid will send information to NPA and NMA on coverage of RSV vaccine to request sharing with their members.

D. Molina Healthcare of Nebraska

Schweitzer Masek reminded that effective January 1, 2024, Molina Healthcare of Nebraska will replace Healthy Blue of Nebraska to administer healthcare coverage for Nebraska Medicaid.

VII. Retrospective DUR

A. Old Business- none

B. New Business: none

VIII. Prospective DUR

A. Old Business- none

B. New Business- Proposed Topics for review in 2024

Schweitzer Masek brings forward previously discussed topics for DUR projects in 2024. Four project topics were unanimously approved as follows: Diabetes diagnosis and outpatient hospital service among using an age band of $\leq 18, 19-64$, and ≥ 65 years, mirroring HEDIS measures for ≥ 67 years of age; Lithium prescriptions and history of lithium levels every ≤ 6 months ; Concurrent opioid/ benzodiazepine and atypical anti-psychotic utilization among members with an overlap of prescription dispensing by ≥ 15 days with a distinction between prescription medications that are 'prn' compared to regularly prescribed; Research standards and treatment of pre-obesity of adults with criteria of bmi of ≥ 25 and $\leq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$, and among children defined by age/weight/gender, and brought back to the Board for discussion.

IX. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9th, 2024.

X. Concerns & Comments

Board:

Charlie Moore states that he feels there is a lack of communication to providers and members by the impending health plan, Molina, on enrollment and Plan information. Schweitzer Masek states she will bring this information back to the State and Molina Healthcare plan.

Comments on the medication Vyvanse and its generic was brought up for consideration at the next P&T as providers are concerned about coverage. Magellan representative, Czechowski, informs that there are shortages across the whole drug class including both Brand and generic and are aware of those medications are reviewed.

Questions on managed care MAC pricing is asked as to if there are differences among manufacturers on medications that drives reimbursement. MCOs will work with Moore and Randolph on MAC appeals.

Tom Dunn asks if with the implementation of the Molina there will be a transition fill notification messaging back the pharmacy. The State will contact Molina to verify. It is noted that not all pharmacies may be capable of receiving the messaging.

DUR Director and State representatives:

Schweitzer Masek shares that Board member, Robert Wergin, has contacted the State for support and consideration of a Gold Card for providers as previously discussed in prior DUR meetings.

It is announced that Medicaid director Kevin Bagley is leaving Nebraska Medicaid and will be replaced interim with Matt Ahern.

The State indicates that discussion regarding the frequency of DUR Board meetings will be held at the next DUR meeting as an agenda item.

Magellan representatives: None

Managed Care Organization (MCO) representatives: None

Public attendees:

Donna Osterlund with Sanofi questions if there will be a transition time for prior authorizations for current Healthy Blue members when Molina starts in 2024. The State responds that a 90-day transition will be in place for prior authorizations and applies to all Medicaid members.

XI. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved. Schweitzer Masek adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.