

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Committee

Date of Meeting: December 2, 2021

Length of Meeting: 2 hours and 21 minutes

Location of Meeting: Electronic Meeting and
DMAS 600 E. Broad Street,
Richmond, Va. 23219

Committee Members Present:

William Droppleman, Virginia Association of Chain Drug Stores (VACDS)

Christina Barrille, Virginia Pharmacists Association (VPhA)

John Seymour, Independant Pharmacies

Richard Grossman, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)

Bill Hancock, Long Term Care Pharmacy Coalition

David Christian, Virginia Community Healthcare Association

DMAS Staff Present:

Chethan Bachireddy, MD, CMO

MaryAnn McNeil, RPh, Pharmacy Manager

Rachel Cain, PharmD

JoeMichael Fusco, PharmD

Ashley Harrell, LCSW

Kiara Jasper, MHA, CPhT

Nettie Emmelhainz, PharmD

Andrew Mitchell

Donna Proffitt, RPh

Other Attendees:

Total number of attendees was 43 including representatives from pharmaceutical companies, providers, advocates, associations, etc.

Introductions

MaryAnn McNeil welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the electronic meeting format and procedures. Ms. McNeil took a roll call of the Committee members and introduced three new DMAS staff. Dr. Bachireddy, CMO, made opening remarks, and thanked the members of the PLC and the DMAS team for their time and continued service.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 2021

Ms. McNeil asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the draft meeting minutes from July 2021. With none noted, Mr. Christian motioned to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Droppleman seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Suboxone film and buprenorphine/naloxone SL tabs access issues –Justin Wood, DEA

Justin Wood, Diversion Program Manager with the DEA- Washington Division, gave a presentation on the drug overdose crisis. Mr. Wood reviewed the most common methods of diversion and the most commonly reported diverted drugs. He discussed how they are addressing the national health emergency relating to opioids in Southwest Virginia.

Finally, Mr. Wood shared a long list of resources available for healthcare professionals to assist them in dealing with these issues.

2022 General Assembly Initiatives- Will Frank

Will Frank, Senior Legislative Affairs Advisor, DMAS, gave a November 2021 Governor and General Assembly (GA) election overview as well as a DMAS Legislative review. Mr. Frank presented and gave a summary of the 2022 DMAS Budget decision packages during the PLC meeting.

COVID- 19 Updates

Ms. McNeil gave a brief update of the COVID-19 public health emergency in Virginia and efforts which have been made to provide the best of care to the Medicaid population. The state plan amendment has been approved. DMAS continues to meet and work with Virginia Department of Health (VDH) regarding Covid and other health issues.

Hepatitis C Update

Ms. McNeil gave a brief update of the changes to the Hepatitis C drug class which was discussed at the DMAS Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) committee meeting.

MCO Pharmacy Partnerships

Kristi Fowler, Pharmacy Director, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Virginia, gave a brief update on some of the MCO programs.

Next meeting

The next PLC Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 14, 2022 10AM-12PM.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.