

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Committee  
Date of Meeting: December 7, 2023  
Length of Meeting: 10:00AM – 12:00PM  
Location of Meeting: DMAS – Conference Room A & B 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**Committee Members Online:**

David Christian - Virginia Community Healthcare Association (VCHA)  
Richard Grossman - Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)  
Bill Hancock – Long Term Care Pharmacy Coalition  
Jamie Fisher - Virginia Pharmacists Association (VPhA)  
John Seymour – Independent Pharmacies

**DMAS Staff Present:**

Lisa Price-Stevens, MD, CMO (online)  
MaryAnn McNeil, RPh, Pharmacy Manager  
Rachel Cain, PharmD  
Kiara Jasper, MHA, CPhT (online)  
Brian McCormick, Director  
JoeMichael Fusco, PharmD  
Kara Redenmeyer, PharmD, MSci, PhD

**Other Attendees:**

Laurie Mauthe, Anthem Health keepers  
A. M. Mocanty  
K. Ky  
B. Traynlan  
Scott Castro  
Brian Trentler, United Healthcare  
Meghan McIntyre  
Heidi Dix

**Introductions**

MaryAnn McNeil welcomed everyone and asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.

**Call to Order**

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2023**

Maryann McNeil asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the draft meeting minutes from July 2023. With none noted, David Christian made a motion to approve the minutes and Bill Hancock seconded the motion.

### **Charge for the Committee**

Ms. McNeil reviewed the charge of the Committee as stated below.

The 2022 Appropriation Act, Item 304. L. The Department of Medical Assistance Services shall implement continued enhancements to the drug utilization review (DUR) program. The department shall continue the Pharmacy Liaison Committee and the DUR Board. The department shall continue to work with the Pharmacy Liaison Committee, meeting at least semi-annually, to implement initiatives for the promotion of cost-effective services delivery as may be appropriate. The department shall solicit input from the Pharmacy Liaison Committee regarding pharmacy provisions in the development and enforcement of all managed care contracts. The Pharmacy Liaison Committee shall include a Department of Medical Assistance Services Department of Medical Assistance Services Pharmacy Liaison Committee Meeting representative from the Virginia Community Healthcare Association to represent pharmacy operations and issues at federally qualified health centers in Virginia. The department shall report on the Pharmacy Liaison Committee's and the DUR Board's activities to the Board of Medical Assistance Services and to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees and the Department of Planning and Budget no later than December 15 each year of the biennium.

### **2024 General Assembly Initiatives:**

The 2024 General Assembly is a budget year meaning “Long Session” of 60 days and new 2-year budget.

Mr. McCormick opened with important dates and changes for the upcoming General Assembly:

- December 20, 2023- Governor’s Budget Released
- January 10, 2024- Session Convenes
- March 9, 2024- Session Adjourns
- 26 New Members of the House of Delegates
- 17 New Members of the Senate
  
- New Majority in the House of Delegates
- New Committee Chairs in both House and Senate
- Expect around 3,000 individual bills to be introduced.

DMAS' role is to monitor introduced legislation, review legislation and budget language for Secretary and Governor, make position recommendations to Secretary and Governor, communicate Governor positions to General Assembly, and provide expert testimony and technical assistance to legislators on legislation.

Lastly, Mr. McCormick explained DMAS understands the interest in increasing dispensing fees, however it is not a function over which DMAS has direct control. Also, dispensing fees are set by the individual MCO's PBMs.

### **Pharmacist As Providers:**

Dr. Fusco gave an update on the Pharmacist as Providers program. Groups and individual are allowed to enroll in the program. Enrolling pharmacists as providers will create a pathway for payment for services provided or supervised by a pharmacist and E&M codes will be utilized for payment model.

The services using Board of Pharmacy protocol include; Lowering Out of Pocket Expenses, Tobacco Cessation, PEP & PrEP, Vaccinations, Prenatal Vitamins, Naloxone, Epinephrine, Family Planning Contraceptives (Access to 12 month supplies as authorized by DMAS), and Dietary Fluoride.

Dr. Fusco will be posting slides from his previous presentation and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to the DMAS website.

### **Physician Administered Drug (PAD) Program**

Dr. Cain introduced the PAD program to the PLC members and asked for thoughts on the program and feedback to potential effects of the program. Also DMAS is interested in how this program may impact their practices. Dr. Cain encouraged the Committee to have input in this program.

### **Other Business**

John Seymour presented some points to consider as cost savings initiatives.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2024

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.