

**Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meeting**  
**October 8, 2024**

**Members Present:**

Lisa Price Stevens, M.D.  
Tim Jennings, Pharm.D.  
Frederick Moeller, M.D.  
Ericka Crouse, Pharm.D.  
Ira Bloomfield, M.D.  
Olugbenga Obasanjo, M.D.  
Rachel M. Selby-Penczak,  
M.D.  
Lura Thompson, Pharm.D.

**DMAS Staff:**

MaryAnn McNeil, R.Ph., Pharmacy Manager  
JoeMichael T. Fusco, Pharm.D., MCO Pharmacy Compliance Manager  
Rachel Cain, Pharm.D., Clinical Pharmacist  
Arielle R. Abbate, Pharm.D., Pharmacy Policy Analyst  
Morgan Berry, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney  
General  
Kiara M. Jasper, MHA, CPhT, Pharmacy Systems Administrator

**Absent:**

Angela Venuto-Ashton, M.D.  
Alexis Aplasca, M.D.  
Megan Sarashinsky, Pharm.D.  
Carol Forster, M.D.

**Staff: Magellan Rx Management**

David D'Amico, Pharm.D., Director Clinical Account Services  
Nancy Eldin, Pharm.D., Pharmacist Account Executive  
Matt Estes, Pharm.D., Pharmacist Account Executive  
Jeni Hodzic, CPhT, Senior Account Management Specialist

**A quorum was present**

**Guests:**

34 representatives from pharmaceutical companies, providers, advocates, associations, etc.

**Welcome and Comments from Lisa Price Stevens, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Chairman:** Dr.

Dr. Lisa Price Stevens welcomed the members of the Committee and thanked them for their participation in this P&T Meeting. Dr. Price-Stevens asked the participants to provide introductions. Dr. Ira Bloomfield joined the meeting virtually due to the state of emergency after Hurricane Helene, which the bylaws allow.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dr. Price-Stevens.

**DMAS' Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board Update:** Dr. Rachel Cain provided the DUR update.

**September 12, 2024 DUR Meeting:**

The Board reviewed 7 new medications - Alvaiz™, Fabhalta®, Filsuvez®, Rezdifra™, Rivfloza™, Voydeya™ and Zilbrysq®. Information regarding the drugs and Service Authorization (SA) criteria were discussed.

Additionally, the Board reviewed the results of several utilization analyses: the impact reports for the 7 new DUR medications (Alvaiz™, Fabhalta®, Filsuvez®, Rezdifra™, Rivfloza™, Voydeya™ and Zilbrysq®); antipsychotic medications in children; antidepressant medications in children; mood stabilizer medications in children; overlaps in antipsychotics, antidepressants and mood stabilizers in children; Synagis utilization; ProDUR reports; RetroDUR reports and utilization analysis reports.

The next DUR Board meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2024.

The minutes from previous DUR meetings can be found at:

<https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/drug-utilization-review/>

**Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2024 and July 23, 2024 meetings:**

Dr. Price-Stevens asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the draft meeting minutes. With no revisions or corrections, the Committee members approved the minutes as written.

**Drug Shortages post Hurricane Helene:** Dr. Jennings addressed the committee to make aware of a national shortage of IV fluids due to damage incurred at a Baxter plant outside of Asheville in North Cove, North Carolina. Dr. Jennings also mentioned that UVA may be postponing elective surgeries and procedures as a measure to save fluids for more urgent needs.

**PDL Management**

**PDL Off Cycle – New Drug Review (Therapeutic Class)**

**Brand Drugs**

**1. Winrevair™ (Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Agents)**

Speaker

- Lisa Wright, DNP, ANP-C, CPHQ, Senior Health Systems Medical Affairs Director, Merck

Dr. D'Amico presented the clinical information for Winrevair.

**2. Ohtuvayre™ (COPD Agents) (Closed Class):** Dr. D'Amico presented the clinical information for Ohtuvayre.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to consider these drugs as PDL eligible.

**Generic Drugs or New Dosage Forms:** Dr. D'Amico noted the following new generics and new dosage forms:

- (Angiotensin Modulators)
  - Entresto® Sprinkle Capsules (sacubitril/valsartan)

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to consider this new dosage form as PDL eligible.

**Potential New PDL Closed Class:** Dr. D'Amico presented the new class and clinical information:

- **Laxatives and Cathartics (Potential New Closed Class)**

The P&T members had questions about this class and elected to discuss this class further during the closed session of the meeting noted below. After the closed session, a motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to become a new closed class.

**PDL Quarter III – Annual Review: Classes with Updates**

**1. Bile Salts:** Dr. D'Amico presented the Bile Salts clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

**2. Hemophilia Treatment (Closed Class):** Dr. D'Amico presented the Hemophilia treatment clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

3. **Phosphate Binders:** Dr. D'Amico presented the Phosphate Binders clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

4. **Sickle Cell Anemia Treatments (Closed Class):** Dr. David D'Amico presented the Sickle Cell Anemia Treatments clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

5. **Anticonvulsants (Closed Class):** Dr. David D'Amico presented the Anticonvulsants clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

6. **Antipsychotics (Closed Class):**

Speaker

- Jeffrey Olney, Ph.D., Senior Medical Science Liaison, Alkermes (Lybalvi®)
- Olawemimo Odebiyi, Pharm.D., Value, Evidence and Outcomes, Teva Pharmaceuticals (Uzedy®)
- Oliade Akingbade, Pharm.D., Medical Outcomes and Science Liaison, Abbvie (Vraylar™)

Dr. D'Amico presented the Antipsychotics clinical information. A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

7. **Antidepressants, Other:**

Speaker

- Ronnie DePue, Pharm.D., Senior Director, Health Outcomes Liaison, Axsome (Auvelity™)

Dr. D'Amico presented the Antidepressants, Other clinical information. A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

8. **Movement Disorders (Closed Class):** Dr. D'Amico presented the Movement Disorders clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

9. **Immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis (Closed Class):**

Speaker

- Joe Cirrincione, Pharm.D., Associate Director, Health Outcomes Liaison, Incyte (Opzelura™)
- Brent Milovac, Pharm.D., Associate Director, Medical Outcomes, Leo Pharma (Adbry™)

Dr. D'Amico presented the Immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis clinical information. A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

10. **Glaucoma Agents:** Dr. D'Amico presented the Glaucoma Agents clinical information.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for this class to continue to be PDL eligible.

11. **Therapeutic Drug Classes Without Updates (Reviewed by the Department):**

- Vaginal Antibiotics
- Antidepressants, SSRI
- Sedatives/Hypnotics
- Steroids, Topical
- Urinary Antispasmodics (Bladder Relaxants)
- Alpha-Blockers and Androgen Hormone Inhibitors for Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy (BPH)
- Ophthalmics:
  - Allergic Conjunctivitis (includes Ophthalmic Antihistamines & Mast Cell Stabilizers)
  - Antibiotics
  - Antibiotic/Steroid Combinations
  - Anti-Inflammatory Agents (includes Ophthalmic NSAIDs & Corticosteroids)
  - Anti-Inflammatory Immunomodulators (Closed Class)

D'Amico noted that the above therapeutic classes had no significant changes since the last P&T Committee review. A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously for the above-mentioned classes to continue to be PDL eligible.

***Comments from the Office of the Attorney General***

Ms. Morgan Berry from the Attorney General's office stated that under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), specifically Virginia Code section 2.2-3711, a public body such as the P&T Committee, may go into a closed session for any one of the 51 reasons listed in that statute. The discussion of manufacturer and wholesaler prices is not one of the 51 reasons listed.

She stated the Attorney General strongly supports the principles of open government embodied by the FOIA and believes in the opportunity of the Commonwealth's citizens to fully witness the operation of government.

Federal Law 42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(b) (3) (D) requires such pricing information to be kept confidential. On this point, federal law supersedes the Virginia FOIA. Since the P&T Committee must discuss this pricing information as part of its duties, pursuant to federal law a confidential meeting must occur for the consideration of this pricing information, and she cautioned only this confidential pricing information should be discussed.

Dr. Tim Jennings made a motion for the P&T Committee to resume the meeting in another room to discuss this confidential information regarding prices charged by the manufacturers and wholesalers of the drug classes discussed at this P&T Committee meeting. This confidential meeting is authorized by Federal Law at 42 U.S.C. § 1396r-8(b) (3) (D) that requires this information be kept confidential. We are also going into closed session to request legal advice on the proposed Bylaws pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711 8B.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Following the Confidential Session, the Committee members re-assembled on the public session. Dr. Jennings confirmed that to the best of each of the Committee member's knowledge the only information discussed at the confidential meeting was information regarding prices charged by the manufacturers and wholesalers of the drug classes discussed at this P&T Committee meeting as well as legal advice pertaining to the bylaws. As authorized by Federal Law at 42 U.S.C. § 1396r-8(b) (3) (D) that requires this information to be kept confidential.

A motion was made to resume the meeting and for the members to approve the confidential session statement. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Committee.

***PDL Changes Effective January 1, 2025***

***PDL Quarter 3 Annual Review***

*Dr. Jennings made the following motions that were seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee (note the motions are for changes to the current PDL status):*

1. ***Laxatives and Cathartics (Closed Class)***: lactulose solution, PEG 3350/Electrolytes Solution for Reconstitution, PEG-3350/Flavor Packs Solution for Reconstitution, and PEG 3350/Electrolytes Powder Pack (Authorized Generic) are preferred. Moviprep powder pack, Golytely Solution for Reconstitution, Nulytely with Flavor Packs Solution for Reconstitution, Suprep Solution for Reconstitution, Clenpiq, Sodium/Potassium/Mag Sulfates Soln Reco, Suflave Powder, Sutab, Plenvu, PEG 3350/Electrolytes Powder Pack, and Kristalose Packet are non-preferred.
2. ***Anticonvulsants (Closed Class)***: Sezary and Depakote Sprinkle are preferred. divalproex sprinkle, tiagabine, and lamotrigine ODT are non-preferred.
3. ***Immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis (Closed Class)***: pimecrolimus (Authorized Generic) and Adbry Autoinjector are preferred.
4. ***Sickle Cell Anemia (Closed Class)***: Siklos is preferred.
5. ***Hypoglycemics, Insulin and Related Agents***: Toujeo Solostar Pen is preferred. insulin glargine vial, insulin glargine pen, Novolog Pen, Novolog Cartridge, and Novolog Vial are non-preferred.
6. ***Bladder Relaxants***: Myrbetriq and fesoterodine ER are preferred. Toviaz is non-preferred.
7. ***Hemophilia Treatments (Closed Class)***: Balfaxar is preferred.
8. ***Ophthalmics, Anti-Inflammatories***: ketorolac LS is non-preferred.
9. ***Movement Disorders***: Xenazine is non-preferred.

***PDL Off Cycle Classes***

*Dr. Jennings made the following motions that were seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee (note the motions are for changes to the current PDL status):*

1. ***COPD Agents (Closed Class)***: Ohtuvayre is non-preferred.
2. ***Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension***: Winrevair is non-preferred.

***Dr. Jennings made the following motion to make no changes to the following PDL drug classes, which was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee:***

- Antibiotics, Vaginal
- Antidepressants, Other
- Antidepressants, SSRIs
- Bile Salts
- BPH Treatments
- Ophthalmic Antibiotics
- Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combinations
- Ophthalmics for Allergic Conjunctivitis
- Ophthalmics, Glaucoma Agents
- Phosphate Binders
- Sedative Hypnotics
- Steroids, Topical High
- Steroids, Topical Low
- Steroids, Topical Medium
- Steroids, Topical Very High
- Antipsychotics

#### **Clinical Criteria and Service Authorization (SA) Forms**

The Committee members reviewed the proposed new or revised clinical criteria, including new and updated service authorization fax forms. A Committee member made the following motion to approve new or revised clinical criteria for the following drugs and drug classes, which was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee:

- New criteria for Kristalose
- New criteria for Opzelura
- New criteria for Entresto Sprinkle Capsules
- New criteria for Toujeo Solostar Pen
- New criteria for Siklos
- New criteria and SA form for Dupixent
- Updates to Sickle Cell Disease SA fax form

#### **Closing Comments:**

Dr. David D'Amico announced that as of 10/1/2024 Magellan Rx Management has switched over to Prime Therapeutics and the vendor for PBMS services for the state of Virginia will be known as Prime Therapeutics moving forward. The next P&T Committee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 16 or January 23, 2025. Dr. Price-Stevens made an announcement that DMAS is currently undergoing a cost of dispensing study as per the Virginia General Assembly mandate to conduct this study every five years. This study is being conducted through the vendor Myers and Stauffer. Dr. Price-Stevens thanked those who have already participated in the study and encouraged all pharmacies to please participate. A motion to adjourn the meeting was then made and seconded. After a unanimous vote, Dr. Price-Stevens adjourned the meeting.