

STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL
LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD
DRUG UTILIZATION EVALUATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 21, 2003

The 30th meeting of the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board Drug Utilization Evaluation Committee (hereinafter called the Committee) met on Wednesday, May 21, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., in the First Floor Hearing Room of the Arkansas Insurance Dept.

Members Present

Preston Means, DFA
Sharon Dickerson, Executive Director, EBD
Susan Bumpas, RN, EBD
Diann Gwatney, AHTTD
Kathy Hanlon, Rogers Schools
Sheila Weddington, SBS
Linda Scott, Supt., Stuttgart PS

Members Absent

Ray Turnage, Pharmacist
Marc Watts, ASEA
Stephanie Gardner, Pharmacist
George Platt, EBD

Others Present: Peggy D'Agostino, Dee Moran, Employee Benefits Division, DF&A; Melanie Kennedy and Joe Golden AELRx; Cheryl Mokry, AdvancePCS; Beth Holland, Organon Pharm.; Rob Thorpe, QualChoice; John Bauerlein.

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Dickerson.

2. Approval of Minutes

Gwatney made motion to approve minutes.

Scott seconded.

Motion approved.

3. Drug Reviews

Mokry presented the Drug Avinza, a drug for the relief of severe to moderate pain. The dosage is one a day. Mokry recommended that Avinza be put on the formulary with quantity/time limit.

After a brief discussion Dickerson requested a report on the utilization of other painkillers.

Bumpas made motion to add Avinza with quantity vs. time limit of 34 per month.

Hanlon seconded.

Motion approved.

Mokry presented the drug Viread. It is a nucleotide analog approved for use in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus-1 infection. She recommended adding it to the formulary.

Bumpas said that a doctor had called and requested that this drug be added.

Bumpas made motion to add Viread to the formulary.

Scott seconded.

Motion approved.

Mokry presented the drugs Humira, Enbrel and Remicade to the committee. They were injectable drugs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Remicade is also indicated for Crohn's disease.

After a discussion Means wanted to look at the medical data on Remicade.

Hanlon made motion to add Humira and Enbrel to the formulary.

Scott seconded.

Motion approved.

Mokry presented the drug Cytomel, a thyroid hormone to the committee. There is no generic of this drug even though it has been on the market for a while. Mokry recommended adding this drug to the formulary.

After discussion Means said that with no objections Cytomel would be added to the formulary.

Mokry presented Teveten and Micardis to move to third tier. She recommended moving these drugs to the third tier and grandfathering the present users.

After a discussion that this move was to be done to correct an oversight Hanlon made motion to move these drugs to third tier and grandfather the present users.

Weddington seconded.

Motion approved.

4. Specialty Rx – Out of State Pharmacies

Mokry made a presentation to the committee about Specialty Rx. She had been asked to look at the next top three drugs coming in from out of state pharmacies to see about routing them to Specialty Rx. There would be a 3% saving to the plan if Specialty Rx became the exclusive out of state specialty provider.

After a discussion over how this would be handled, Mokry said that there would be two letters sent out in a 60 day period to the members and physicians. The members would be contacted by a transition team. On 9-1-03 the out of state pharmacies could be locked out.

Scott made motion to move all out-of-state specialty drugs to Specialty Rx, with a 60 day notice and lock out the out-of-state specialty pharmacies on 9-1-03.

Gwatney seconded.

Motion approved.

5. Co-Insurance

Mokry made a presentation to the committee of more co-insurances scenarios.

Scenario 1 was 50% co-insurance, \$10 minimum with \$50 maximum and a \$1,000.00 out of pocket limit. Scenario 2 was 50% co-insurance, \$10 minimum with \$100 maximum and a \$1,500.00 out of pocket limit. Scenario 3 was 60% co-insurance, \$10 minimum with \$50 maximum and a \$1,000.00 out of pocket limit.

6. AELRX PBM Report

Golden presented the PBM report.

Dickerson reported to the Committee regarding letters she had received from Legislators Childers and Hutchinson regarding the pharmacy contract. She has been asked to return to the Legislative Committee and answer questions.

Meeting Adjourned.