



HFS

Illinois Department of
Healthcare and Family Services

JB Pritzker, Governor
Elizabeth M. Whitehorn, Director

401 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Illinois 60607
Telephone: +1 312-793-4792, TTY: +1 800-526-5812

Drug Utilization Review Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date | Time: Thursday, January 29, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Location: This meeting was held virtually via WebEx Webinar

Audience: Drug Utilization Review Advisory Board

Council Members Present:

Chair (*)

Vice-Chair (**)

Bernice Man

Chad Kodiak*

Huzefa Master (non-voting member)

Jewel Young

Santina Wheat

Stefanie Toomey**

Tracy Milbrandt

Absences Recorded:

Priti Shah

HFS and UIC Staff Present:

Claudia Colombo

Melissa Davis

Thomas Dorn

Brianna Hudak

Michael Welton

Arvind Goyal

Jennifer DeWitt

Chintan Patel

Mary Moody

- I. **Call to Order, Roll Call:** The meeting was conducted via WebEx webinar format in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.
 - A. Dr. Chad Kodiak called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call of Council Members:** Dr. Kodiak facilitated roll call of Board members. Quorum was confirmed.
- III. **Conflict of Interest Declaration and Approval of Agenda:** No DUR Advisory Board members had conflicts of interest pertinent to the agenda. Dr. Kodiak reminded the Board members to recuse themselves from the discussion, if conflicts of interest are present, and to provide an updated Conflict of Interest form if new conflicts arise.

- A. The current meeting agenda with no changes or additions was moved for approval by Dr. Santina Wheat and seconded by Dr. Stefanie Toomey. The motion was passed.
- IV. **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from October 30, 2025 were moved for approval by Dr. Stefanie Toomey and seconded by Dr. Santina Wheat. The motion was passed.
- V. **Approval of Destruction of Recorded Meeting Records 18 months and older:** A motion to destroy recorded meeting records dating back to July 2024 was made by Dr. Santina Wheat and seconded by Dr. Stefanie Toomey. The motion was passed.
- VI. **Board Updates:** Updates provided by Claudia Colombo.
- A. Welcome Dr. Tracy Milbrandt and Dr. Huzefa Master to the DUR Board.
- B. Bylaws update: the Board voted to make an MCO member a non-voting member, and it has been approved by HFS legal.
- VII. **Retrospective DUR:** Utilization and appropriate prescribing of Zurzuvae (zuranolone)
- A. Clinical review provided by Brianna Hudak.
- B. No board discussion.
- VIII. **Prospective DUR:** Review of Pregnancy Edit in the Fee-For-Service (FFS) Pharmacy Benefit Management System (PBMS)
- A. Clinical review provided by Claudia Colombo.
- B. Board Discussion:
- Discussion about whether there should be a hard stop on pregnancy medication. The Board ultimately decided against this. The Board wants to be sensitive to patient who be suffering a loss. If more hard edits were added, the patient may have to discuss a sensitive topic in a public place like a retail pharmacy. The pregnancy-span period was also discussed.
 - A question was raised why the period is so generous compared to the time the patient is actually pregnant. The date ranges for the pregnancy-span are from the vendor.
 - There was a discussion to see when angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi), angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), combination antihypertensives containing an ACEi or ARB, Entresto, or HMGCoA reductase inhibitors ("statins") were prescribed during pregnancy. A suggestion was made for the caseworker to keep the pregnancy updated in the system. If a baby was born early, or there was a miscarriage, the system should be updated because the edit in the pharmacy system calculates off the due date.
 - There was a question about the numbers of patients affected. A suggestion to conduct a deeper dive of sampling members to see how many patients this affects.
 - Suggestion to survey MCOs to see if their pregnancy edits could be coordinated in the future. Identify whether communication needs to occur with the prescribing practitioner.
 - Suggestion was made to create an educational pamphlet for providers about women of childbearing age. Response was that there is a need to define numbers better.
 - Board also requested to see a percentage of the total number of FFS and MCO members who received an ACEi, ARB, antihypertensive combination, Entresto, or statin when it appears they were pregnant compared to those who were pregnant who did not receive one of the listed medications.

- C. Motion to have the pharmacy team offer targeted education to providers prescribing ACEi, ARBs, antihypertensive combinations containing an ACEi or ARB, Entresto, or statins was moved by Dr. Santina Wheat. Dr. Stefanie Toomey seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. Motion carried.

IX. DUR Education

- A. Opioid prescribing educational handout discussed.
- B. Treatment of asthma educational handout discussed.
- C. Motion to approve the two handouts and add to the DUR education website was moved by Dr. Stefanie Toomey. Dr. Santina Wheat seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. Motion carried.

X. Public Comments

- A. None.

XI. New/Old Business/Announcements

- A. New/Old Business:
 - a. Board had made a motion to survey providers to identify causes of antiretroviral non-adherence at the October meeting. It is anticipated to have a report back at the July 2026 meeting;
 - b. MCO report on initiatives for metabolic monitoring for adults on antipsychotics will be available at the April 2026 meeting; and
 - c. the recently approved handouts will be added to the DUR education website.
- B. Announcements:
 - a. Pharmacy Provider Notices include:
 - i. changes to billing procedures for emergency contraception. When billing for patient care services provided by a pharmacist for contraceptives, pharmacists must now use the NPI of the IDPH standing order for contraception. Usage of the “dummy” NPI will no longer be accepted. HFS also provides coverage of 2 home pregnancy tests every 30 days for both FFS and MCO members.
 - ii. Compound claims that had been paying at zero due to the Change Healthcare cyberattack can now be resubmitted for payment for FFS members.
 - iii. update to vitamin D2 (ergocalciferol) guidelines Provider Notice released and guidelines were posted to the DUR education website.
 - iv. Abrysvo respiratory syncytial virus vaccine update; Abrysvo is now available via medical and pharmacy billing without a prior authorization or submission of additional documentation of weeks of gestation for members 19 years and older.
 - v. HFS will allow a maximum dispensing of a 12-month supply at once of contraceptives.

XII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

- A. Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Dr. Santina Wheat and seconded by Dr. Stefanie Toomey. The motion was passed.
- B. Next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2026, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Approved by the DUR Advisory Board on **4.30.2026**