

DRAFT MINUTES

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Committee
Date of Meeting: July 19, 2011
Length of Meeting: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Location of Meeting: DMAS 13th Floor Board Room

Meeting Attendees

DMAS Staff:

Bryan Tomlinson, Director Health Care Services
Keith Hayashi, Pharmacist
Tyrone Wall, Pharmacy Compliance Specialist
Donna Francioni-Proffitt, Pharmacy Program Manager
Scott Cannady, Senior Policy Analyst
Maryanne Paccione, Information Systems
Rachel Cain, Pharm. D
Gregg A. Pane, MD, MPA, Agency Director

Committee Members:

Jan Burrus, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America
Bill Hancock, Long Term Care Pharmacy Coalition
Hunter Jamerson, EPIC Pharmacies
Tim Musselman, Virginia Pharmacists Association
Sandra Guckian, NACD

Other Attendees:

Richard Grossman, Vectre Corporation
Alisa Robertson, Student
Kemper Heyers, Virginia Association of Chain Drug Stores (VACDS)
Lucas Cosgrove, Rite Aid

Introduction

Bryan Tomlinson welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Call to Order

December 1, 2010 minutes were approved.

New Business

Bryan Tomlinson opened the floor to the Pharmacy Liaison Committee members to discuss proposals for cost effective ways to deliver pharmacy services.

Tim Musselman discussed payment methodology for Makena. Mr. Musselman indicated that the inability for pharmacists to compound 17P as a cost effective alternative to the dispensing of Makena may result in increased costs to the Virginia Medicaid program. However, he understands DMAS' coverage policy for Makena is based on language in the Virginia Drug Control Act that prohibits pharmacists from compounding copies of commercially available products. Mr. Musselman indicated that the Virginia Pharmacy Association may propose changes to this statute during the next legislative session.

Hunter Jamerson inquired about the status of Federal Grant Programs for Medication Therapy Management (MTM). Mr. Jamerson also asked if there are any pilot programs for the Virginia Medicaid population in southwestern Virginia. He stated that MTM would be very beneficial for Medicaid members in different areas of Virginia especially those residing in southwestern Virginia. Mr. Tomlinson responded by informing Mr. Jamerson that Virginia Medicaid is expanding its MCO coverage to that area, which will result in fewer lives covered by the fee for service program as more members are enrolled in MCOs. Mr. Tomlinson shared that the MCOs will be including a medical home component as a part of their contract with DMAS. The medical home model will address some of the care coordination issues addressed with MTM.

Replacement for AWP

Donna Francioni-Proffitt informed the Committee that beginning in late September, DMAS will obtain Average Wholesale Pricing (AWP) data from Medispan instead of First Data Bank. FDB will no longer be publishing the AWP after September 28, 2011. DMAS is also reviewing other pricing options to replace AWP including the potential use of Average Acquisition Costs (AAC). Ms. Proffitt informed the Committee that a dispensing fee study will be conducted to determine a reasonable reimbursement rate for pharmacists if AAC is identified as the pricing benchmark replacing AWP.

Pharmacist Administered Flu Vaccines

Ms. Proffitt informed the members that pharmacists will be able to administer flu shots and be reimbursed by DMAS through the DMAS Point of Sale (POS) claims processing system. The pharmacist would be able to receive a dispensing fee once the changes to POS system are completed. DMAS anticipates these changes to be in effect by the fall. Additional reimbursement for administering a vaccine will require a budget amendment.

Service Authorizations based on Clinical Edits

Ms. Proffitt informed the Committee that DMAS, by way of the Virginia Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board required service authorizations for Synagis beginning July 1, 2011. Ms. Proffitt also informed the Committee that service authorizations will be required for atypical

antipsychotics prescribed for any member under the age of six. DMAS anticipates that this service authorization process will be implemented no later than November 2011.

With no other business, Mr. Tomlinson adjourned the meeting at 2:30PM.