

DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2022, 1:00 PM

PRESENT via Video Conference: Paul Rao, MD; Margaret Rudin, APRN, PhD; Amy Veivia, PharmD; Bryan Keyes, MD; Carissa Patsky-Pomerleau; Pamela Heatherington; MD; Dielka Brutus, APRN; Nicole Taylor, MD; Tina Spokes, RN

1. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom; Dr. Rao called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.
2. The next meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2022, from 1pm – 2:30pm via Zoom
3. Minutes: The minutes of the December 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved with minor changes.
4. Announcements: The General Assembly's Public Health Committee is considering 2 new proposals to improve children's mental health in Connecticut. Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 5001 are aimed at addressing the pandemic's impact on depression and getting better access to treatment. Senate Bill 2 would expand preschool and mental and behavioral services for children. House Bill 5001 is similar. It is designed to improve the availability and provision of mental, behavioral and substance abuse treatment services to children.
5. Medication therapeutic class review and discussion:

Stimulant and non-stimulant ADHD medications were reviewed and discussed.

There was a recommendation to include dosage recommendations when converting from oral to transdermal methylphenidate. This recommendation was approved.

Formulations of stimulants previously reviewed were discussed for possible inclusion in the approved drug list. These formulations were Adhansia (methylphenidate XR) and Jornay PM (methylphenidate XR). It was noted that experience with these formulations remains limited and the concerns raised in February 2020 remain. It was also noted that this medication is not on the Medicaid Formulary. It was recommended that these medications not be added to the approved drug list. This recommendation was approved.

The most recently FDA approved stimulant, Azstarys (serdexmethylphenidate and immediate release d-methylphenidate) was reviewed and discussed for possible inclusion in the approved drug list. The d-methylphenidate is fully absorbed quickly, while the serdexmethylphenidate is a prodrug with continuous conversion to the active d-MPH throughout the day. There was committee consensus to delay adding this medication to the approved drug list until there is more experience with the medication.

Viloxazine (Qellbree), a selective nor-epinephrine reuptake inhibitor approved for ADHD, was reviewed and discussed for possible inclusion in the approved drug list. It was noted that this medication is not considered first line and data is still limited at this time.

There was committee consensus to delay adding this medication to the approved drug list until there is more experience with the medication.

6. New Business:

- Dr. Rao asked committee members if there were any organizations or outlets that could be utilized to recruit new members to the committee. Members were also encouraged to consider any colleagues that may be valuable additions to the committee. Members were encouraged to refer any interested persons to Dr. Rao.

- There was discussion regarding a potential role for PMAC in preparing guidelines for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for youth with substance use disorders. There was a recommendation that perhaps PMAC issuing a statement of support would be beneficial. This will be discussed further in a future meeting.

7. Standing items:

- Obtaining vitals, laboratory tests, and other assessments: This was discussed; no changes are recommended at this time.

8. Other as time allows:

- One member asked if anyone on the committee had experience using Lybalvi, which is a combination of olanzapine and samidorphan. This medication is indicated only for adults at this time and no committee members had experience to share.

9. Dr. Rao adjourned the meeting at 2:30PM.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Veivia, PharmD