

DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2022, 1:00 PM

PRESENT via Video Conference: Paul Rao, MD; Margaret Rudin, APRN, PhD; Amy Veivia, PharmD; Brian Keyes, MD; Carissa Patsky-Pomerleau, MD; Jason Velasco, MD; Naomi Libby, MD; Hilary Klein, MD; Irv Jennings, MD; Margo Fugate, MD; Dielka Brutus, APRN; Angela Ojide, APRN

1. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom; Dr. Rao called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.
2. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2022, from 1pm – 2:30pm via Zoom
3. Minutes: The minutes of the June 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.
4. Announcements: There were no announcements.
5. Medication therapeutic class review and discussion: The guidelines for antihypertensives and antidepressants were reviewed. A recommendation was made to reformat the antidepressant section to align with the various antidepressant classes. There was discussion about commenting on FDA approvals and/or the place in therapy of various antidepressants. The committee agreed to not include those details at this time.

Dr. Rao led a discussion regarding the concept of treatment resistant depression and the implications for child and adolescent mental health.

Dr. Rao shared the findings of a recent study published in JAACAP: Vortioxetine for Major Depressive Disorder in Adolescents: 12-Week Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Fluoxetine-Referenced, Fixed-Dose Study." It was noted that this was a negative industry-sponsored study, and Dr. Rao referred the committee to the discussion of the methods and finding by Dr. Towbin, also published in the same issue, which pointed out the rarity of published negative studies sponsored by industry, the difficulties of conducting clinical trials, and the challenges in generalizing from such studies.

New Business:

- There was discussion regarding a potential role for PMAC in considering best practices for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for youth with substance use disorders.

It was noted that while treatment with MAT for youth is recommended when indicated, finding providers or treatment centers was difficult and funding is often limited. The committee agreed to work on a draft of a letter to be forwarded to relevant agencies endorsing the use of MAT, noting the importance of improving access to MAT, and recommending initiatives that would increase the awareness of MAT. A. Veivia will begin outlining the letter and forward to members for their input prior to the next meeting.

- At the last meeting, there was discussion about a treatment referred to as the Matthews Protocol and its use in DMDD, consisting of prescribing a combination

amantadine/oxcarbazepine medication protocol. After reviewing the limited evidence base, the committee recommended no further action.

6. Standing items:

- Obtaining vitals, laboratory tests, and other assessments: This was discussed; no changes are recommended at this time. It was recommended to leave the assessments as is until the public health emergency has ended. It was noted that providers should maintain the 30-day requirement if/when treating inpatient youth.

7. Other as time allows:

- A. Veivia announced that antipsychotic medications would be reviewed at the December meeting and asked members to forward any areas of interest in advance of the meeting. A. Veivia also announced that Dr. Pitegoff has offered to meet with her in advance of the next PMAC meeting to discuss the monitoring parameters for the antipsychotics and provide feedback and recommendations.

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

Respectfully submitted: Amy Veivia, PharmD