

**DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 5, 2019, 1:00 PM**

**PRESENT: Paul Rao, MD; Lee Combrinck-Graham, M.; Angela Ojide, APRN; Amy Veivia, PharmD; Dielka Brutus, APRN; Roumen Nikolov, MD; Tina Spokes, RN; Brian Keyes, MD; Alton Allen, MD; Carlos Gonzalez, MD; Rosina Bandanza, MD**

1. The meeting was held in conference room A. Dr. Rao called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.
2. The next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2019 from 1pm – 2:30pm at Albert J. Solnit Children's Center 915 River Rd Middletown CT, A Building, Conference Rm A.
3. The minutes of the March 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved with minor revisions.
4. Announcements:
  - PMAC welcomed a new DCF psychiatrist to the meeting, Dr. Bandanza. Dr. Bandanza has joined the CMCU and will be involved with reviewing psychotropic medication requests.
5. Medication Therapeutic Class Review:
  - ❑ **Non-stimulant ADHD medications:** Research was completed regarding dosing and monitoring.
  - ❑ There was discussion regarding the mechanism of action and the efficacy of the Alpha-2 agonists; there were no recommended changes to the approved drug list or the guidelines.
  - ❑ There was discussion regarding the utility of ADHD rating-scales. The committee consensus was that the scales are useful for assessing response to medications; no specific recommendations were made.
  - ❑ The safety data and dosing recommendations were reviewed for all medications in this class. There was detailed discussion regarding the incidence of psychosis/mania, hepatitis and priapism associated with atomoxetine. It was concluded that no changes in the guidelines are warranted at this time.
6. Old Business:
  - ❑ Meeting quorum, attendance and frequency of meetings was discussed; no recommendations were made at this time. Discussion continued regarding the charge of the committee, promoting the committee's work and recruiting new members. The following recommendations were made:
    - i. Provide information to the RRGs and case workers to increase knowledge and empower them to more fully participate in the care of the children.
    - ii. Monitor medication effectiveness and outcomes to better inform future recommendations and guidelines.

It was noted that Dr. Rao shares CMCU data with the RRGs on a quarterly basis and it is favorably received.

7. New Business: Standardization of Supplements: NIH Guideline
  - The committee discussed the information available on the government website for dietary supplements ([ods.od.nih.gov](https://ods.od.nih.gov)). It was noted that there is much valuable information on this website and that a link should be provided on the DCF website. The committee also recommended reviewing and revising the PMAC position statement that was drafted regarding supplements and posting it on the PMAC page of the DCF website.
  
8. Other as time allows:
  - The FDA issued a warning against the use of many genetic tests with unapproved claims to predict patient response to specific medications, including the antidepressants. A recommendation was made to post this warning on the PMAC page of the DCF website.
  
9. Dr. Rao adjourned the meeting at 2:30PM.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Veivia, PharmD