

DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2020, 1:00 PM

PRESENT via Video Conference: Paul Rao, MD; Beth Muller, APRN; Brian Keyes, MD; Pam Hetherington, MD; Dielka Brutus, APRN; Angela Ojide, APRN; Carissa Patsky-Pomerleau, MD); Margaret Rudin PhD, APRN; Irv Jennings, MD

1. The meeting was held remotely via videoconference; Dr. Rao called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.
2. The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2020 from 1pm – 2:30pm as a remote meeting.
3. Minutes: The minutes of the September 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.
4. Announcements: none
5. Medication Therapeutic Class Review: As the clinical pharmacists were not in attendance at this meeting, the antidepressant class scheduled for review will be deferred until November.
6. Old Business:
 - PRN medication use: The proposed statement about PRN psychotropic use for DCF-committed youth was reviewed and modifications suggested. These suggestions will be incorporated into a final statement and presented at a future PMAC meeting.
 - i. There was discussion among members about the challenges of PRN medication administration, including clarification of which settings have staff that are qualified to assess the need for administration and the subsequent effects.
7. New Business:
 - Implementation of Family First Prevention and Services Act (FFPSA): The committee discussed how PMAC might contribute to the discussions around implementation of FFPSA.
 - There was brief discussion about the implications of FFPSA for clinical services in the state
 - There was then discussion around the role PMAC might play in informing decisions relevant to the implementation of FFPSA
 - It was suggested that state professional mental health organizations might collaborate to produce recommendations
 - The multidisciplinary nature of the committees involved in FFPSA discussions was pointed out, and the lack of familiarity with psychiatric principles was noted
 - PMAC's purpose and mission: the role of PMAC in considering systems-level issues was discussed at length. Given what some members describe as limited

opportunities for psychiatric providers from different settings and disciplines across the state to convene to discuss these issues, there was agreement among those in attendance that ongoing discussion of these issues have been fruitful, and that sufficient time be set aside at future PMAC meetings for these discussions.

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

Respectfully submitted: Paul Rao, MD