

Iowa Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee Minutes

Date: April 16, 2026

Chairperson: Jason Kruse

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:43 p.m.

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Committee Members Present: Jason Kruse, D.O.; Lacey Ferguson, Pharm.D.; Rachel Kinn, Pharm.D.; Tricia McComb, R.N.; Dawn Schissel, M.D.; Charles Wadle, D.O.; and Fadi Yacoub, M.D. (Vacancies July 2023: 1 Physician Assistant)

Committee Members Absent: Jennifer Doudna, Pharm.D., R.Ph.

Iowa DHHS Staff Present: Abby Cate, Pharm.D., Pharmacy Consultant; and Darian Forcier, Pharmacy Administrative Support.

Iowa Medicaid Staff Present: Roberta Capp, M.D., MHS; Paige Clayton, Pharm.D.; Erin Halverson, R.Ph.; Gina Kuebler, R.Ph.; and Pam Smith, R.Ph.

Managed Care Organization (MCO) Staff Present: Jordan Thoman, Wellpoint Iowa; Emily Rogers, Iowa Total Care; and Candace Jordan, Molina Healthcare of Iowa.

Jason Kruse called the meeting to order.

- I. Jason Kruse asked that each committee member introduce themselves to the public. Dawn Schissel made the motion to approve the November minutes, and Fadi Yacoub seconded. The motion passed with no objections. There were no new verbal conflict of interest disclosures.
- II. Annual P&T Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Elections: Fadi Yacoub nominated Jason Kruse for Chairperson. Dawn Schissel seconded, and all members were in favor. Fadi Yacoub nominated himself as Vice Chairperson, and Jason Kruse seconded. All members were in favor with Fadi Yacoub abstaining from the vote.
- III. PDL Revision Notifications (Erin Halverson): Providers have received one notice since the last committee meeting. Due to the discontinuation of insulin aspart, Novolog vial, Mix vial, FlexPen, FlexPen Mix and Penfill were updated to preferred on the Iowa Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL) effective 2/27/26.
- IV. Drug Rebate Issues (Dr. Clayton): Since the passage of House Bill 1, the White House had solicited the 17 largest pharmaceutical manufacturers for Most Favored Nation Pricing, which is defined as second lowest price in the countries of the Geneva 7 (minus the United States), plus Denmark and Switzerland. This still stands and Medicaid is a portion of that, and all of the 17 have entered into Most Favored Nation agreements with the White House. As part of that

agreement, these prices have to be available to Medicaid, and the program's name is the Generous Model. It is a voluntary program; however, the 17 largest pharmaceutical manufacturers have enrolled into definitive agreements, which opened up points within requests for applications to be negotiated. The points in the Generous Model, which is the way Medicaid is going to get to Most Favored Nation pricing, has been in discussions since January 1st. It was supposed to be finalized by March 31st, but there was an extension given to manufacturers until April 30th. Dr. Clayton has educated guesses about what will happen, that we are going to be better suited in the offers that we see for 2027. 16 of 17 manufacturers have agreed to continue to offer SSDC purchasing pool historical rates (Medicaid does not have high utilization from the other manufacturer), so there is a safety net if doesn't go as anticipated with Most Favored Nation. Jason Kruse had question regarding offers and Strait of Hormuz. Dr. Clayton speculated that we may see offers on medications for which we traditionally not had offers. The 17 largest companies are focused on maybe 10% of portfolio when making offers; however, these companies have vast portfolios for more than 200 NDCs and products that we only get statutory Medicaid rebate on. Dr. Clayton thinks we potentially are going to see lower prices on all of those products and that PHARMA is going to dig deeper compared to what we have been getting. Dr. Clayton mentioned that not all products are sold outside of the United States, and so there may be some manufacturers with pipeline drugs due to launch this year that may or may not launch outside of the United States. If they don't launch outside the United States, they do not qualify for Most Favored Nation Pricing. Dr. Clayton stated PHARMA is a good partner and it is a balance between them giving more money vs. still having enough money to research and development.

- V. PA Criteria/Pro-DUR Edits (Dr. Cate): Committee members were provided a copy of the January 2026 Iowa Medicaid Pharmacy Program Changes notice detailing PDL, prior authorization, and ProDUR edit changes effective January 1, 2026, posted on the www.iowamedicaidpdl.com site on the Informational Letters page. Informational Letter dated January 5, 2026 notifying providers of an amendment to the Pharmacy 90-day supply requirement, excluding Indian Health Service (IHS) providers from the 90-day supply requirement. The committee also received copies of the letter sent from the DUR Commission to DHHS following their meeting on February 4th, which had recommended changes to the prior authorization criteria for: Duplimab (Dupixent); Finerenone (Kerendia); Janus Kinase (JAK) Inhibitors; Remibrutinib (Rhapsido); and Tezepelumab-ekko (Tezpire). All of the DUR recommendations were approved by DHHS and will go into effect June 1, 2026.
- VI. Legislation (Dr. Cate): A bill was introduced on the Senate side that will codify Managed Care. It is still being discussed in legislature, but this would implement Managed Care to Iowa Code for Medicaid Services. If passed, this would be in place 1/1/2027.
- VII. Iowa Medicaid Updates (Dr. Cate/Erin Halverson): Dr. Cate: Iowa Medicaid is undergoing implementation of a new Point of Sale Vendor. The RFP with Change Healthcare was expiring and Iowa Medicaid went through the process of finding a new vendor in the summer of 2024. Optum Rx was selected as the new Point of Sale vendor. Implementation with Optum Rx started in July 2025, and change will be effective July 27, 2026. In addition, Iowa Medicaid has decided to carve out the outpatient pharmacy benefit from the MCOs. This was discussed at last DUR meeting and an effective date of 10/1/2026 was given at that meeting; however, that date has been moved to 12/1/2026. All pharmacy claims will be processed through the Fee for Service program and through new Point of Sale vendor, Optum Rx. There will be no change to member's pharmacy

benefit, or to PDL, PA criteria, or rate reimbursement methodology outside of normal processes. There will also be another cost of dispensing survey this summer. Chuck Wadle asked a question regarding 90 day supply and if it is up to pharmacy to supercede the decision to provide a smaller day supply. Dr. Cate advised the prescriber can direct pharmacy to not dispense the 90-day supply, but it is up to pharmacy to enter override code. Erin Halverson: Melissa Biddle has transitioned to different position with Optum and thanked Melissa for years of service.

- VIII. Public Comment: In addition to the written public comments provided to committee members, they heard oral public comments from the speakers shown below. They were also forwarded manufacturer comments as they were received via email prior to the meeting.

Name	Organization / Manufacturer	Product
Taylor Laffey	Leo Pharma	Adbry
Daniel Kueh	Kalvista Pharmaceuticals	Ekterly
Nikki Asse	Novo Nordisk	Wegovy tabs
Beth Babler	Crinetics Pharmaceuticals	Palsonify
Carla McSpadden	Galderma	Nemluvio
Jason Demuth	Agios	Aqvesme
Lauren Sumner	Sanofi	Wayrilz
Matthew Clark	Tonix Medicines	Tonmya

Member Comments Received: None

Written Provider Comments Received: Imcivree, Retinoids, Clindamycin

Written Manufacturer Comments Received: None

Jason Kruse addressed non-coverage of Imcivree and asked DHHS to review this and refer to DUR Committee for development of PA criteria. Dr. Kruse also asked DUR to review PA requirement and coverage of topical clindamycin.

At 10:46, Fadi Yacoub motioned to go to closed session as authorized by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) of the Open Meetings Law to review or discuss economic records associated with the PDL which are required or authorized to be kept confidential. Tricia McComb seconded, and the motion passed with unanimous roll call approval. Open session resumed at 11:23.

- IX. PDL Discussion and Deliberation (Erin Halverson): All subsequent recommendations (with numbering as provided on agenda attachment 3) were made to maximize cost savings to the program unless otherwise noted.

1. Nemluvio to Preferred with Conditions
2. Mounjaro to Preferred with Conditions
3. Suflave to Non-Preferred
4. Ruconest to Preferred with Prior Authorization

Lacey Ferguson motioned to accept the recommendations above, and Charles Wadle seconded. The decision was unanimous.

- X. Newly Released Drugs (Dr. Capp and Erin Halverson): All following recommendations (with numbering as provided on agenda attachment 4) were made to maximize cost savings to the program unless otherwise noted. Dr. Capp reviewed the clinical information for the new drugs, and then Erin Halverson read through the recommendations as follows:

1. Aqvesme – Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
2. Blujepa- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
3. Ekterly- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
4. Exxua- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions
5. Hyrnuo- Recommend status on the RDL as Non-Recommended with Conditions (Select Oncology Agents)
6. Ibtrozi- Recommend status on the RDL as Non-Recommended with Conditions (Select Oncology Agents)
7. Inluriyo- Recommend status on the as Non-Recommended with Conditions (Select Oncology Agents)
8. Jascayd- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions (Pirfenidone & Nintedanib)
9. Leqembi Auto-Injector- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
10. Lynkuet- Recommend status on the PDL as Preferred
11. Orlynvah – Recommend status on the RDL as Non-Preferred
12. Palsonify- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
13. Rhapsido- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions
14. Tonmya- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
15. Voyxact- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
16. Wayrilz- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions (Hematopoietics/Chronic ITP)

Fadi Yacoub motioned to accept the recommendations above. Charles Wadle seconded, and the decision was unanimous.

- XI. Newly Released Generic Drugs and New Drug Dosage Forms/Strengths/Combinations/BioSimilar (Erin Halverson): All following recommendations were made to maximize cost savings to the program unless otherwise noted.

Drug Name	PDL/RDL Recommendation
Amphetamine ER ODT	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Besifloxacin	Non-Preferred
Carbidopa-Levodopa ER Cap	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Ciprofloxacin-Hydrocortisone Otic Suspension	Non-Preferred
Cladribine Pak	Non-Preferred
Conjugated Estrogen Tab	Non-Preferred
Evexithroid	Non-Preferred

Glycerol PHE Liquid	Non-Preferred
Loteprednol/Tobramycin Opth Suspension	Non-Preferred
Prednisone Delayed Release Tab	Non-Preferred
Ustekinumab-AAUZ	Non-Preferred with Conditions

Dawn Schissel motioned to accept the recommendations in the table above. Charles Wadle seconded, and all members were in favor.

Drug Name	PDL/RDL Recommendation
Arbli Oral Suspension	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Brekiya Auto-Injector	Non-Preferred
Daybue Stix	Non-Preferred
Eliquis Sprinkle Cap	Non-Preferred
Eliquis Tab for Oral Suspension	Non-Preferred
Escitalopram Cap	Non-Preferred
Javadin Oral Solution	Non-Preferred
Otezla XR	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Starjemza	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Subvenite Oral Suspension	Non-Preferred
Wegovy Tab	Preferred with Conditions
Vyscoxa Oral Suspension	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Yutrepia Inhal Cap	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Zurnai Auto-Injector	Non-Preferred

Rachel Kinn made recommendations to add with Conditions under Modified Formulations PA criteria to both Javadin Oral Solution and Subvenite Oral Suspension.

Fadi Yacoub motioned to accept the recommendations in the table above with the addition of Conditions for Javadin Oral Solution and Subvenite Oral Suspension. Dawn Schissel seconded, and all members were in favor. Dr. Kinn also made request to have DUR committee review removal of quantity limits on lamotrigine chewable tablets.

- XII. Atopic Dermatitis: Dr. Capp presented a PowerPoint outlining guidelines and different treatment options for Atopic Dermatitis.
- XIII. Preview of the next meeting: The next scheduled meeting is set for August 20, 2026.

A motion was made by Charles Wadle to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Lacey Ferguson, and all in attendance approved. The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.