

**Iowa Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee  
Minutes**

**Date:** April 17, 2025

**Chairperson:** Jason Kruse

**Time:** 9:31 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

**Location:** Grimes State Office Building Room B100, 400 E 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

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

**Committee Members Absent:** Charles Wadle, D.O.

**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 (via Zoom); Paige Clayton, Pharm.D. (via Zoom); Erin Halverson, R.Ph.; Gina Kuebler, R.Ph.; Pam Smith, R.Ph. (via Zoom); and Melissa Biddle.

**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 and DHHS/Medicaid staff 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: Dawn Schissel nominated Jason Kruse to remain as Chairperson. Rachel Kinn and Fadi Yacoub both seconded, and all members were in favor. Jennifer Doudna volunteered to be Vice Chairperson, and Rachel Kinn seconded this nomination. This decision was also unanimous.
- III. PDL Revision Notifications (Erin Halverson): Providers have received two notices since the last committee meeting. Due to the discontinuation of Carafate oral suspension, Sucralfate oral suspension changed to preferred on the PDL effective 12/13/24. Lagevrio is not approved by the FDA for any use, including treating COVID-19. It was issued under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), however due to the end of the public health emergency, it is no longer a covered product by Iowa Medicaid. Paxlovid continues to be a payable product by Iowa Medicaid without prior authorization.

- IV. Drug Rebate Issues (Dr. Clayton): There are no current issues to report, but likely will be in the future due to impacts to Medicaid brought on by executive orders or other changes issued by the Trump administration in their efforts to cut spending. Drew Snyder, who will be in charge of Medicaid at the Federal level, was the former Executive Director of Mississippi Medicaid. Paige Clayton has worked with him in the past, and has confidence that he understands the mission and purpose of Medicaid and will be a good advocate for the program. Dr. Oz, just confirmed as CMS Administrator, has already issued a dozen initiatives in his first two weeks. The pharmaceutical industry has traditionally been excluded from tariffs, but that is likely to change. A lot of pharmaceutical companies do currently have dependency on manufacturing in foreign countries. Several prominent manufacturers have pledged initiatives to bring production back to the United States. Paige Clayton has been told that there is enough pharmaceutical product already within the U.S. to meet the needs of all Americans for at least six months, so there shouldn't be any immediate shortages should tariff changes impact production or imports.
- V. PA Criteria/Pro-DUR Edits (Dr. Cate): Committee members were provided copies of Informational Letters 2647-MC-FFS-D and 2668-MC-FFS-D sent to providers notifying them of Pharmacy Program and PDL changes since the last meeting. The committee also received a copy of the letter sent from the DUR Commission to DHHS following their meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>, which had recommended changes to the prior authorization criteria for: Dupilumab (Dupixent); Ensifentrine (Ohtuvayre); Incretin Mimetics for Non-Diabetes Indications; Select Preventative Migraine Treatments; Select Topical Agents; and Vonoprazan (Voquezna).
- VI. Legislation (Dr. Cate): There were no new updates, as thus far all bills with potential impact introduced in the current legislative session have not made it out of the sub-committee.
- VII. Iowa Medicaid Updates (Dr. Cate): Results of the cost of dispensing survey increasing the dispensing fee from \$10.63 to \$11.37 per prescription are now available to the public and have been published on the state's rate setting vendor Myers & Stauffer's web page. This increase request is now in the governor's recommendations for the DHHS budget currently being discussed in the legislative session. Pending budget approval, the new fee will be effective July 1, 2025.
- 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization / Manufacturer</b>	<b>Product</b>
Tracey Maravilla	Ascendis Pharma Inc	Yorvipath
Claire Elson	Amgen	Tezspire
Suzanne Hensley	Shorla Oncology	Imkeldi
John Deason	Neurocrine Biosciences	Crenessity
Barbara Silvernail	Luye Pharma	Erzofri
Amy Hornig	Abbvie	Vyalev
Patrick Boland	Bristol Myers Squibb	Cobenfy

Member Comments Received: None

Written Provider Comments Received: Evrysdi tablets

Written Manufacturer Comments Received: Aqneursa, Danziten, Nymalize

At 10:25, 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. Dawn Schissel seconded, and the motion passed with unanimous roll call approval. Open session resumed at 11:25.

- IX. PDL Discussion and Deliberation (Erin Halverson): All subsequent recommendations (with numbering as provided on agenda attachment 2) were made to maximize cost savings to the program unless otherwise noted.

1. Tezspire to Preferred with Conditions
2. Gvoke to Preferred
3. Linzess 72mcg to Preferred with Conditions

Fadi Yacoub motioned to accept the recommendations above, and Rachel Kinn seconded. The decision was unanimous.

- X. Newly Released Drugs (Dr. Capp and Erin Halverson): All following recommendations (with numbering as provided on agenda attachment 3) 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. Alhemo- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
2. Alyftrek- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions
3. Aqneursa- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
4. Cobenfy- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred Step 3; atypical antipsychotics step therapy requirements apply
5. Crenessity- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
6. Duvyzat- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions (DUR to develop PA criteria)
7. Hympavzi- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
8. Miplyffa- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
9. Yorvipath- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred
10. Zepbound- Recommend status on the PDL as Non-Preferred with Conditions (covered indication only: treatment of moderate to severe obstructive sleep apnea in adults with obesity); DUR currently developing PA criteria.

Dawn Schissel motioned to accept the recommendations above, with the addition that Yorvipath be referred to the DUR Commission to develop prior authorization criteria per Rachel Kinn's suggestion. Fadi Yacoub 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.

<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>PDL/RDL Recommendation</b>
Levetiracetam ODT	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Memantine-Donepezil ER Caps	Non-Preferred
Mesna	Non-Preferred
Nimodipine Oral Solution	Non-Preferred
Prucalopride	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Timolol Hemihydrate Ophthalmic Soln	Non-Preferred

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

<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>PDL/RDL Recommendation</b>
Danziten Tabs	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Erzofri	Preferred Step 2
Femlyv	Non-Preferred
Gabarone	Non-Preferred
Hydrocortisone 2.5% Solution	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Imkeldi Oral Solution	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Neffy Nasal Spray	Non-Preferred
Opipza Oral Film	Non-Preferred Step 3
Otulfi	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Potassium Chloride ER Tab 15 mEq	Non-Preferred
Pyzchiva	Preferred with Conditions
Radicava Oral Suspension	Non-Preferred
RoxyBond	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Selarsdi	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Steqeyma	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Tramadol 75mg Tabs	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Vyalev Subcutaneous Injection	Non-Preferred
Yesintek	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Zituvimet	Non-Preferred with Conditions
Zituvimet XR	Non-Preferred with Conditions

Dawn Schissel motioned to accept the recommendations in both tables above. Jennifer Doudna seconded, and all members were in favor. However, though they agreed Neffy nasal spray be made non-preferred as recommended, the committee would like to bring it back for additional review at the next meeting in August.

- XII. Hypoparathyroid Treatment Staff Presentation: Dr. Capp presented a PowerPoint outlining treatment for this rare lifelong endocrine disorder, and Dr. Yacoub contributed additional prescriber perspective from his nephrology practice.

A motion was made by Fadi Yacoub to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Dawn Schissel, and all in attendance approved. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is set for August 21, 2025.