

**DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee  
MINUTES**

**June 27, 2014 1:00 PM**

Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, Middletown, CT.

Present: Jacqueline Harris, M.D., Chris Malinowski, APRN; Amy Veivia, Pharm. D.; David S. Aresco, Pharmacist, Beth Muller, APRN; Patricia Cables APRN.

1. Call to order: at 1:14pm
2. Set date/time of next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2014 from 1pm – 2:30pm; Solnit Center AB conference room.
3. Minutes: Review and approve minutes of the May 2014 meeting. Add Beth Muller to attendance. Minutes approved with this change.
4. Announcements: At the September meeting an annual agenda will be set.
5. Old Business:
  - Antidepressant DUE: Follow-up
    - High ratio of females-to-males on 2 antidepressants: No published data was available to compare the PMAC study results against however two case review articles were discussed (Sex Differences in the Pharmacokinetics of Antidepressants: Influence of Female Sex Hormones and Oral Contraceptives; Clinical Pharmacokinetics June 2014, Volume 53, Issue 6, pp 509-519 and When do you prescribe antidepressants to depressed children?: PMID: 23712717, PubMed – indexed for MEDLINE). The Antidepressant DUE data does show that males are usually prescribed Effexor and trazodone while females are usually prescribed Prozac and trazodone. This trend was discussed but no further action was indicated.
    - A question was raised regarding the use of trazodone in males. PMAC assigned Dr. Veivia and Beth Muller to research this and report back in September.
    - DUE conclusion: antidepressant use is consistent with reasonable community practice standards.
  - Follow-up on request from May meeting: Research and report any new data regarding the safety and efficacy of fluoxetine (Prozac) use in children and/or adolescents: Results: no new data available.
6. New Business

- Appendix II medication class review: Antidepressants – this class of medication was reviewed and discussed in detail. No changes recommended as no new information is available
  - Monitoring anti-depressant medication use for patients with a medical vs psychiatric diagnosis/ symptoms was briefly discussed. No further action was recommended at this time.
  - Possible cardiac issues with Celexa and other SSRI's were discussed. Noted max dose of Celexa is set at 40mg. No further action recommended.
- Next PMAC DUE:
  - PMAC now has new partners to assist with DUE research: Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE)- to assist with drilling down on medication use data. Additionally the pharmacy consultants are being considered for credentialing to allow assistance with reviewing medication use data.
  - An ORE member (Lynette Warner) will be invited to the Sept or Oct PMAC meeting to help coordinate activities.
  - Evaluation of stimulants had been suggested at the May meeting. However with ORE participating the PMAC recommends the next DUE be on the antipsychotic class of medication.
    - Basic data will be collected over the summer and presented to the PMAC at the Sept meeting. PMAC will then determine what questions need to be answered and then determine if the data available can answer those questions.
    - The DUE data criteria will be finalized and data collection continued with a final report to be presented at the Nov or Dec PMAC meeting.
    - Data can be collected for a period of between 3 and 6 months. Preferred data would include:
      - Drug-Drug interactions including additive responses such as increased sedation, etc.
      - Age
      - Gender
      - Combination therapy (should include all medications)
      - Dose: has the max dose been achieved prior to adding an additional medication.
      - Compliance
      - Length of therapy
      - Diagnosis or target symptomatology
      - Side effects/Adverse reactions: weight gain, etc.
    - There was a discussion regarding how PMAC will use this data once collected. Possibilities include but are not

limited to: evaluating proper/max dosing and appropriate monitoring.

- Noted the overall goal is to complete 2 DUES per year.
- Mandatory monitoring requirement: roll out plan developed by the CMCU for the PMAC approved requirements: A process is being developed for mandatory monitoring and changes are being made to the computer system to support this. This new format will be rolled out Sept 1st.
  - Once the new computer support system is in place the process will be:
    - All med requests are required to go through CMCU.
    - All required information (mandatory) must be included in the med request.
    - If information is missing there will be an initial 30day approval for med use.
      - The prescribing practitioner will be notified within 15days of missing mandatory information and asked to provide the information to CMCU.
      - If the information is not received within the initial 30day time frame, approval for the med to be used will be terminated as of the 30<sup>th</sup> day.

7. Other as time allows.

- Dr. Knapp: request to evaluate paroxetine (Paxil) for the approved drug list. Defer pending consultation with CMCU and Dr. Harris. If agreed this medication will be presented at the next PMAC meeting for possible addition to the approved drug list.

8. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

David S. Aresco