

**DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2012**

Solnit Center for Children, Middletown, CT.

PRESENT: David Aresco, Pharmacist; Amy Veivia, Pharmacist; Alton Allen, M.D.; Carlos Gonzalez, M.D.; Brian Keyes, M.D.; Waqar Azeem, M.D.; Joan Narad, M.D., Patricia Cables, APRN; Pieter Joost Van Wattum, M.D.; Chris Malinowski, APRN; GUESTS: Joan Gerring, M.D.; Michael D. Cohen, M.D.

1. Call to order: Chris Malinowski called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.
2. Set date/time of next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for May 04, 2012 from 1pm – 2:30pm; Solnit Center AB conference room.
3. Minutes: Review and approve minutes of the March 2012 meeting: Minutes approved with several spelling corrections. Agenda also corrected as to the time of the meeting.
4. Announcements:
  - Two guests attending the meeting were introduced by Dr. Narad. They are from the State of New York Office of Children and Family Services and practice as Juvenile Justice Psychiatrists. They are touring various DCF facilities and programs including the PMAC.
    - Joan Gerring, M.D.
    - Michael D. Cohen M.D.
  - Dr. Siegel has been out sick for 3 weeks but plans to return to work Monday April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Dr. Van Wattum will be presenting the next Grand Rounds at the Solnit Center for Children. The topic will be strategies to reduce medication use including economic impact.

5. Old Business:

- Drug Use Guidelines: pregnancy category indicator: A document denoting the pregnancy category of each medication in the Drug Use Guideline was distributed, reviewed and discussed. There was some discussion regarding the need to taper SSRI's at term. Post partum depression was briefly discussed. PMAC recommends this Pregnancy Category tool be added as an addendum to the drug use guidelines in the same manner as the maximum dose table/tool (see enclosed).
- Drug-drug interaction (DDI) tool: the disadvantages of a static tool such as a printed document were discussed. DDI information changes on at least a monthly basis making a static tool very difficult to update and maintain. A recommendation to utilize an automated, on-line screening tool was made and discussed. The tool recommended is Facts & Comparisons (F&C). Pharmacy & Therapeutics Consulting (P&T) has an account with F&C that can easily be shared with the CMCU. A recommendation was made and approved to have David Aresco of P&T demonstrate this tool to the CMCU. A decision will be made after the demonstration as to whether this tool is adequate for the CMCU.
- DDI issues with Celexa were briefly discussed (regarding combining with other medications that prolong the QTC). PMAC recommends a re-evaluation of this drug regarding it being on the approved drug list (to be put on May agenda.)
- Serotonin syndrome was briefly discussed; no recommendation made at this time.

6. New Business:

- Article review: TEOSS Study: The article was distributed, reviewed, and discussed. It was noted that molindone (Moban) is no longer available. It was also noted that all medications in the study had side effects although different depending on the drug and/or drug class: EPS, metabolic syndrome, etc. Other similar studies were briefly discussed as well as acute vs. chronic treatment. Weight gain with Zyprexa and Risperdal were highlighted in the discussion. Noted Geodon may be affiliated with less weight gain but may not be as effective. Noted there currently is an ongoing 52 week study of Latuda and weight gain. Appetite suppressants such as metformin and topiramate were discussed. Noted the effectiveness of metformin is still to be determined. Noted topiramate is often affiliated with cognitive dulling.

7. Drug Information Inquiries

- From DI phone line: None to report.
- From PMAC: None to report

8. Other.

- The need to routinely perform EKG's was briefly discussed.
- Various Husky prior approval requirements were discussed. These issues will be brought to Jason Gott.

9. Adjournment: Chris Malinowski adjourned the meeting at 2:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

David S. Aresco RPh, FASCP