

DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
Monthly Meeting Notes

October 1, 2010 1:00PM

Riverview Hospital for Children and Youth
Middletown, CT.

PRESENT: See enclosed attendance record.

1. Call to order: the meeting was called to order at 1:13 pm.
2. Set date/time of next meeting: The next meeting will take place on November 5, 2010 from 1-3PM; RHCY AB Conference Room.
3. Minutes: The minutes of the September 2010 PMAC meeting were reviewed. Several changes/corrections were made and approved. The minutes were subsequently approved including the changes. The minutes will be posted on the website.
4. Announcements:
 - The Medication Booklet is complete. The booklet is available on the DCF web site. Additionally there are 100 copies with a report cover available for general distribution. Requests for Medication Booklets should be submitted to Dr. Williams.
 - There was a discussion regarding the order of the classes of medications in the Medication Booklet. It was suggested that anti-psychotics should not be listed first as it may carry a stigma with the public. Possibly re-ordering the drug classes in the Booklet will be considered.
 - Tufts List Serve: there has been an overwhelming response. Recommendation made to make this an e-community for enhancing communications.
 - AACAP 57th Annual Meeting to be held in New York City October 26 – 31. Dr. Azeem will be presenting. His presentation will be on Autism in developing countries such as Pakistan. Dr. Azeem and PMAC members discussed various aspects of his presentation subject matter. Some screening tools were described and discussed. The process of referral for early intervention was briefly discussed. Various alternative medications and therapies were briefly discussed.
 - Village for Families Annual Child Psychiatrist & APRN Breakfast to be held on November 11, 2010 from 8am – 1030am. Location: 1680 Albany Ave, Hartford, CT.
 - DCF Outpatient MH Learning Community to take place October 7th 10am-12n at the Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT.
 - KTP Children's Mental Health Gubernatorial Forum to take place on October 22nd at 630pm. Location: Woodrow Wilson Middle School, Middletown, CT.
 - NY Times Article regarding the potential growth of Medicaid was distributed and reviewed. Discussion followed. There was a consensus reached that decisions should be made based on data and therefore be evidenced based.
 - The Kaiser Foundation Report on Health Reform was described and discussed. It was noted that CT has a health reform Cabinet and that CT is doing well compared to other states. A report from the Cabinet was then distributed and discussed. It was noted that there are considerable funds available to assist children and families. It was also noted that the Electronic Health Record mandates are not applicable to clinics or state agencies.
 - Two Grand Rounds that are scheduled for the near future were discussed. Dr. Williams will send the details to each PMAC member.

5. DSS Provider Bulletins:

- Two handouts were distributed and discussed. The CT Voices for Children and the DSS Bulletin. The DSS Bulletin is a response to a mandate to provide smoking cessation services for pregnant women. An additional DSS Bulletin addressing counseling will be published soon. Cheryl was asked to research proposed coverage to find out if alcohol treatment and or counseling will be included in this mandate. It is unknown at this point if this mandate will cover women who are planning to become pregnant.
- A third handout was distributed and discussed in detail. The handout describes a new health reform Federal Web site: Healthcare.gov.

6. Med Protocol Review

- PMAC voted to add Lamictal XR to the approved drug list in August with various restrictions. After discussion PMAC voted and approved the addition of Lamictal XR to the Drug Use Guidelines.
- Formulary Revision: a recommendation was made to add an * on the approved drug list adjacent to each drug with restrictions. A key will be added: * = See Drug Use Guidelines for Restrictions and/or Other Important Information". After discussion the recommendation was seconded. PMAC voted and approved the recommendation.

7. Obesity Subcommittee Report

- An article for Child Psychiatric Alerts was distributed and briefly discussed. The article subject matter is obesity in children & psychiatric medications.
- Plans are to have a framework completed and presented at the Nov 2010 meeting. This will be a broad based focus and divided according to whom recommendations will be going to: MD's, Facilities, DCF Nurses, Etc.
- The subcommittee is interested in gathering "success stories" as part of the implementation plan. PMAC members should send any cases were certain interventions and/or programs etc. were successful in controlling obesity to the subcommittee chair (Dr. Siegel). Some PMAC members shared positive outcomes that resulted from diet and exercise programs.

8. Writing Sub-Committee:

- Dr. Williams requested that a PMAC member take the lead for this sub-committee. Monica Jensen was nominated and accepted this position. It was recommended and agreed that the first step for the sub-committee would be a telephone conference call.

9. Psychopharmacology Conference Planning Sub-Committee:

- Dr. Wolman was nominated to chair this sub-committee and accepted this position.
- There was considerable discussion regarding the general theme of the next conference and who the target audience should be. Recommended that in general the theme should be providing education to help with referrals between primary care providers and psychiatry/DCF (i.e. theme of sharing). This should also include practical aspects (how to do it).
- The goals of the CT Council/AAP task force that Dr. Keyes is on were discussed. There may be a role for PMAC to assist getting primary care practitioners together in some type of forum to discuss medication use.

- ❑ Setting up meetings with psychiatrists and pediatricians on a Saturday morning or for an evening was discussed. This has been done in the past and has been well attended.
- ❑ Use of the task force as a conduit to provide content and/or as a partner to help ensure the intended targeted audience attends was discussed. Dr. Keyes will work with the task force regarding possible coordination.
- ❑ Tying the conference to maintenance of board certification requirements for pediatricians was discussed. Dr. Wolman will look into this possibility.

10. DSS Medicaid Analysis:

- ❑ Value Options completed the analysis and plans to present 18 months of data at the Nov 2010 PMAC meeting.
- ❑ This will be the second analysis. Noted that DSS may want to perform some provider profiling.

11. OTHER:

AUTISM: Dr. Wolman's presentation on Autism was described, discussed and summarized.

- ❑ Screening: Consumers may use the Bright Future Grid and share this information with the MD.
- ❑ Assessment of Therapies was discussed from a consumer's perspective.
- ❑ Resources: there are resources available to the layperson regarding how to evaluate information. Dr. Wolman will forward this information to Dr. Williams who will forward it to PMAC members.
- ❑ Vaccines causing autism: no evidence but still discussed due to media and celebrity.

CERTS Immunization Data Record: Described and discussed.

- ❑ Reporting this data is not mandatory and there are some confidentiality issues.
- ❑ A discussion ensued regarding various issues and challenges of the CERTS program.
- ❑ It was noted that immunization data is not a mandatory Public Health Record and there is some uncertainty regarding the availability and/or completeness of this data.
- ❑ It was also noted that CERTS does require a release to provide data.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

David S. Aresco