DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
MINUTES
November 1, 2013 1:00 PM
Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, Middletown, CT.

Present: Jacqueline Harris, M.D., Chair; David Aresco, RPh; Chris Malinowski, APRN; Maureen Evelyn, Parent Advocate; Amy Veivia, Pharm. D.; Debra Brown, M.D.;Jason Gott, RPh; Allana Lee; Beth Muller, APRN; Courtney Durkin, Pharm.D. Candidate UConn; Pieter Joost Van Wattum, M.D.

1. The meeting was call to order by Dr. Harris at 1:05pm.

2. Set date/time of next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2013 from 1pm – 2:30pm. The location will remain Solnit Center AB conference room.

3. The minutes of the October 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved with 1 minor spelling correction.

4. Announcements: The USJ Pharm. D. candidate Courtney Durkin was introduced.

5. Old Business:
   - Introduction to Drug Use Guidelines, identify and discuss inconsistencies with CMCU process, review feedback from PMAC: these issues were discussed at the last CMCU meeting. It was determined that these items should be deferred and removed from the agenda until a later date to be determined. CMCU thanks PMAC members for the work done on these issues.
   - Prazosin – Alpha-2 agonists
     - Concurrent study feasibility – CMCU resource requirement/availability: noted that a retrospective study would be very labor intensive. Also noted that a prospective study to report ADR's possibly related to prazosin use would be very labor intensive.
     - IOL study – There is no data addressing the concurrent use of these 2 medications. All data relates to the use of prazosin alone.
     - Issue validity – PMAC recommends that due to the very low volume of patients on this combination no further study of this issue would be done at this time.

6. New Business
   - NCINQ Measurement Advisory Panel progress report: No report available at this time. PMAC recommends this be dropped as an agenda item at this time. Further discussion can take place when a report is made available to the committee.
   - PMAC Work Group report: the work group consisting of Dr. Paul Rao, Amy Veivia Pharm. D., Maureen Evelyn Parent Advocate, and Dr. Jacqueline Harris met via teleconference on 10/31/2013. Meeting result, recommendations:
     - There should be standard criteria developed to be used when evaluating medications for addition/deletion to/from the approved drug list.
       i. Investigate what other agencies in CT and other States use for standard criteria (if any).
     - Discussed developing a repository for providers to report ADR's from DDS, DCF, DMHAS, Corrections, Etc.
     - Discussed the concept of having approved recommendations regarding drug use be considered requirements vs. guidelines. This would require identifying best practices.
     - PMAC discussion points:
       - Problems noted with integration in the mental health system.
       - PMAC documents are not consistent, For example some require a notation of age while others do not.
       - Need a process to manage the retrospective review of the approved drug list. Should this be done every 6 months or annually? Strengths and weaknesses of several review processes were discussed. Several ideas were discussed regarding how to standardize this process.
       - Focused DUE's via the CMCU with a very targeted report back to PMAC discussed.
       - Noted the CMCU form may need updating/revision.
       - The Parent Advocate contacted DDS to determine how they manage psychotropic drug use. It was determined that DDS has a great interest in this topic and are currently in the process of revising their policies and procedures. DDS reports that currently their patients average 2.67 concurrent psychotropic medications prescribed per patient. It should be determined (if possible) what % of DDS clients are <18 years of age. PMAC recommends that a representative from DDS attend a PMAC meeting to share this and additional relevant information. Short staffing issues and how often children are seen was discussed. For example a child may be on 5 medications but seen only every 3 months.

- The impact on practice resulting from making requirements vs. recommendations or guidelines was discussed.

- Dr. Harris indicated a desire to have a community-based APRN join the work group. Scheduling conflicts prevented one candidate from participating. The work group membership will remain open until the next meeting on 11/14.

7. Obesity and Medications
   - Determination if recommendations from the PMAC report on this issue have been implemented: reported that detailed follow-up is not available at this time. Noted that some recommendations were rejected and some implemented by DCF.

8. Other as time allows.
   - MTA follow-up study: Growth retardation with stimulant use: Study showed about 1" growth retardation @ 12yrs out. Noted that it may be problematic that the study was reported as an average vs. evaluating outliers.
   - GoodRx.com: this may be a good site to use for comparing pharmacy costs for medications. There was a general discussion regarding the costs of medications.
   - There was a discussion regarding the use and validity of genetic testing. The cost of this testing was discussed.
     - A CYP450 reference tool developed by P&T Consulting will be brought to the next PMAC meeting for review.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

David S. Aresco, Consulting Pharmacist