

DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee
Monthly Meeting Notes

September, 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 1:07 pm.
2. Set date/time of next meeting: The next meeting will take place on October 1, 2010 from 1-3PM; RHCY AB Conference Room.
3. Minutes: The minutes of the August 2010 PMAC meeting were reviewed and approved. The minutes will be posted on the website.
4. Announcements:
 - The Medication Booklet is complete. It was noted that there is no money available to support publication of the booklet. The booklet will be available on the DCF web site. Additionally there will be 100 copies made with a report type cover for general distribution.
 - It was announced that the website has been updated and includes monthly PMAC minutes, PMAC information, the Medication Booklet, and the quarterly newsletters.
 - DSS Provider Bulletins: Cheryl Wamuo: No report this month.
 - There is information available from DSS P&T Committee regarding adding a Child Psychiatrist as a Committee member- they were unable to get their request before the Legislature but hope to do so in next Legislative Session. Dr Harris attended the September 2nd meeting. Psychotropic medications were not reviewed at that meeting.
 - Mark Schaffer has expressed an interest in DCF and DSS working together to optimize medication management. Two new members (DCF Medical Director or designee, and a community Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist) will be submitted to the Legislature for consideration in the 2011 session. Psychotropic medications will be reviewed in March and June 2011. PMAC recommendations should be submitted by February 1, 2011. Dr. Williams will bring the DSS PDL to the October meeting for review.
 - DCF Behavioral Health will be sponsoring a conference for ARG staff on psychological testing. The Conference will be at RVH in the Silvermine Building on September 16th from 9-12. Anyone interested in attending was asked to contact Chris Arnold.
5. New Communications:
 - Tufts report on Psychotropic Medication Oversight in Foster Care: Study Report, Executive Summary, and Study Appendix: State Tools and Resources were distributed and discussed. A link to this resource will be available on the website.
 - There was discussion of creating a subcommittee to research and publish an article describing the development and evolution of the PMAC experience. This article would describe the process of developing psychotropic medication oversight for DCF involved children and youth and discuss the ongoing challenges. The intended audience would be administrators of systems of care and/or private sector professionals. Psychiatric Services may be the appropriate

journal to submit to for publication. Dr. VanWattum, A. Kamm, and A. Veivia expressed interest in working on the project. It was suggested that Dr. Leebans be invited to join the subcommittee.

- ❑ A NYT article on Psychotropic Medication Overuse was discussed. A link to this article will be available on the website.
- ❑ Mark Schaffer will be contacted to discuss the report, Antipsychotic Medication Use in Medicaid Children in 16 states.
- ❑ The CWA League National Conference is up-coming and the Health Advocates are doing a presentation. PMAC may want to consider sponsoring a speaker at a future meeting since its role in Connecticut is unique.
- ❑ The CT Coalition for Children's Mental Health is trying to establish a political agenda and educate candidates regarding public policy. A debate regarding children's mental health issues will be held October 13, 2010 at 6:30pm and Middlesex Community College.
- ❑ The Connecticut Council has been working on a mental health blueprint for children in Connecticut. Examination of the financial aspects of the blueprint indicates that this model of care will not increase costs. The council is in the process of detailing the proposal and working on its implementation. There was discussion comparing the newly developed blueprint with the FQHC model. The blueprint will be circulated to PMAC members. Direct comments to Dr. Keyes and Dr. vanWattum.

6. Med Protocol Review

- ❑ PMAC voted to add Lamictal XR to the approved drug list in August, however it was added with a flag regarding the concern over safety and efficacy in children <13yrs old. Additionally this medication should not be considered first line therapy. New reports have now been released about risk of aseptic meningitis. Additional warnings will be added for this.
- ❑ Formulary History: Spreadsheets were provided for informational purposes.
- ❑ There was a general discussion regarding the medication use protocol: A recommendation was made last month to simplify and shorten the protocol as it is felt that most of the monitoring requirements etc. is now accepted practice. This was further discussed in this meeting. Given the continued documentation in the literature of adverse events associated with psychotropic treatment in children and adolescents the committee agreed to leave the protocol as is.
- ❑ There was discussion of how best to detail physicians about the protocol and the necessary information when submitting a medication request.

7. Obesity Subcommittee Report

- ❑ No report. Last meeting the subcommittee is requesting case reports be submitted to them that show good examples of case management resulting in weight loss. These case reports will be utilized to present some success stories with the protocol.
- ❑ Healthy Families, Healthy Communities will be offering a conference September 22, 2010 from 1-3 at the LOB.

8. DSS Medicaid Analysis –Preliminary Review:

- ❑ Value Options completed the analysis and DCF and DSS must accept the report. The report will be presented to Mark Schaffer at the Clinical Operations Meeting and subsequently VO will present to PMAC members.

Adjournment: adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Amy J. Veivia