



Core Purpose:

To assure the highest quality health care in Iowa through our role as physician and patient advocate

<http://www.iowamedical.org>

Iowa Medical Society Presentation

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Assuring quality health care through our role as patient and physician advocate

- IMS has an interest in ensuring patients have access to rational, clinically appropriate, safe, and cost-effective therapy
- IMS supports an affordable and sustainable drug benefit program under Medicaid
- The P&T Committee must objectively appraise and evaluate drugs for placement on the PDL to assure good patient compliance and cost effective treatment

Historical Perspective

- At the time of implementation in 2004 the Iowa Medical Society expressed the following concerns:
 - Additional administrative burdens regarding prior authorizations
 - Appropriate medications received by our patients without fail-first policies
 - How the P&T Committee would make decisions about drug inclusion on the PDL
 - Decisions should be based on clinical effectiveness not cost containment alone

Current Issues

- 2 hour wait times for prior authorizations - very problematic and an administrative burden for our physician practices
- Placement of the mental health drugs on the PDL by taking a more conservative approach under current law
- Medicaid budget includes removing the current exemption for the remaining MH drugs
- How decisions are made regarding placement on PDL

Guiding Principles for a PDL

- Decisions should be based on scientific and economic considerations that achieve appropriate, safe and cost effective drug therapy.
 - Cost Containment cannot be the driving factor
 - Peer reviewed, scientifically sound evidence regarding efficacy of side effects and interactions
 - Thorough evaluation of the benefits, risks and potential outcomes for patients
 - Assessment of the impact on patient compliance

IMS Recommended Changes

- Provide greater transparency regarding the process used in determining clinical effectiveness of drugs placed on the PDL through legislative direction to DHS
- Provide to appropriate stakeholder groups the information needed to provide adequate and meaningful education to all prescribers if there are issues regarding a class of drugs
- Encourage better communication between DHS and stakeholders regarding the PDL