



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

# Georgia Department of Community Health

## DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW BOARD MEETING

Department of Community Health

**January 22, 2025**



**DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW BOARD MEETING  
AGENDA**

*2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.*

*Atlanta, Georgia 30334*

*Department of Community Health Board Room - Room 470-A*

*East Tower, Balcony Level*

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025**

**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Gurinder J.S. Doad, M.D., Ph.D., Chair*

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

*Chair*

**EXTERNAL COMMENTS SESSION**

*Chair*

**CLINICAL REVIEWS**

*Chadwick Nicholson, PharmD, NorthStar*

*Mary-Beth Plum, PharmD, BCACP, NorthStar*

*Emily Baker, PharmD, BCPS, NorthStar*

➤ **New Drugs**

- Beqvez
- Duvyzat
- Lenmeldy
- Winrevair

**ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION**

*Chair*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Afzal Mistry, PharmD, Prime Therapeutics*

*Nina Bandali, PharmD, Prime Therapeutics*

**RECONVENING OF OPEN SESSION**

*Chair*

**BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND VOTES**

*Chair*

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

*Chair*

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

*Chair*

# Department of Community Health Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB) MINUTES Wednesday, October 16, 2024

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

M. Celeste Fowler, Pharm.D., HCMBA, Chair  
Alton Condra, III, R.Ph.  
Glenda Wrenn Gordon, M.D., MSHP, FAPA  
Burton L. Lesnick, M.D., FAAP  
Robyn Lorys, Pharm.D.  
J. Russell (Rusty) May, Pharm.D.  
Osgood (Drew) A. Miller, R.Ph.  
Matthew Perri, Pharm.D., R.Ph., Ph.D.  
Suzanne Walton, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Doug Collins, M.D.  
Gurinder Doad, M.D., Ph.D., Vice-Chair  
Otto Goyco, M.D.  
Torey Jones, Pharm.D.  
Brent L. Rollins, R.Ph., Ph.D.  
Danny A. Toth, R.Ph.

## **Staff**

Peter D'Alba, Pharm.D., Pharmacy Director, Pharmacy Services  
Gilletta Gray, R.Ph., Clinical Manager, Pharmacy Services  
Ashlee Henry, MSHI, Pharmacy Operations Supervisor  
Ashley Bellino, Pharmacy Operations Specialist, Pharmacy Services  
Rose Duncan, MBA, Operations Analyst-Drug Rebate Program, Pharmacy Services  
Lori Garner, MHS, MBA, R.Ph., Pharmacist, SHBP

## **NorthStar HealthCare Consulting**

Emily Baker, Pharm.D., BCPS, MHA, MBA, President  
Chad Nicholson, Pharm.D., Clinical Programs Director  
Mary-Beth Plum, Pharm.D., BCACP, Clinical Pharmacist

## **OptumRx**

Mark Hall, MBA, PMP, Assoc. Director, Government and Public Sector Markets  
Talmahjia "Tami" Sweat, Pharm.D., Clinical Consulting

## **Magellan Rx Management/Prime Therapeutics**

Afzal "Fez" Mistry, Pharm.D., Pharmacist Account Manager  
Nina Bandali, Pharm.D., Senior Director, PDL Management

## **Care Management Organizations**

Turkesia Robertson-Jones, Pharm.D., CareSource  
Cassandra Tancil, Pharm.D., BCPS, Amerigroup

## **Pharmacy Students**

Rutvi Patel, Pharm.D. Candidate, University of Georgia

Department of Community Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB)  
MINUTES

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

**Call to Order**

The Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB/DUR Board/Board) held its fourth meeting for the calendar year on October 16, 2024. The Chair, M. Celeste Fowler, Pharm.D., HCMBA, called the meeting to order at 10:07am.

**Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

Chair Fowler asked for corrections or changes to the minutes from the July 17, 2024 meeting. A motion was made (Alton Condra, III, R.Ph.) and seconded (Suzanne Walton, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP) and carried to approve the minutes as written.

**External Comments Session**

The following external comment was presented to the Board:

- Mapillar Dahn (Founder/CEO of MTS Sickie Cell Foundation) – thanked the Board for the coverage approval of Casgevy; spoke about the impact of the withdrawal of Oxbryta from the market and asked for consideration for the approval of Lyfgenia also.

Disclosure forms were completed by Mapillar Dahn and were reviewed by the Department.

**New Drug Reviews**

Clinical information for the following new drugs, in the market six months or more, was presented for discussion and recommendations. The complete detailed drug summary is in the New Drugs for Review section of the DUR Board binder.

Therapeutic Class	Drugs	Presenter
<b>Muscular Dystrophy Agents</b>	<b><i>Agamree</i></b>	Chad Nicholson, Pharm.D.
<b>NASH Agents</b>	<b><i>Rezdiffra</i></b>	Mary-Beth Plum, Pharm.D., BCACP
<b>Potassium-Competitive Acid Blockers</b>	<b><i>Voquezna</i></b>	Chad Nicholson, Pharm.D.
<b>Topical Ectoparasiticides</b>	<b><i>Xdemvy</i></b>	Mary-Beth Plum, Pharm.D., BCACP
<b>NHE3 Inhibitors</b>	<b><i>Xphozah</i></b>	Mary-Beth Plum, Pharm.D., BCACP

The Board discussed the drug information, provided comments, and raised questions on the following:

**Department of Community Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB)  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 16, 2024**

- Voquezna – H. Pylori resistance testing can be done but not that common; including in PA criteria could be cumbersome on physicians; would still step thru first line quadruple therapy; product is prepackaged in dual and triple therapy packs; no major red flags for effects on kidney; current preferred Proton Pump Inhibitors don't require PA and have quantity limits in place.
- Xphozah – lower doses used in study but standard dosing has higher dosages-study included a dose ranging study where doses were titrated up to determine what was effective, manage side effects and phosphate adjustments; higher dose of 50mg like Ibsrela (NP/PA/QLL) was not used; criteria can include claims history check concurrent phosphate binder therapy; does have some efficacy as monotherapy and may be looked at for other indications; can revisit criteria if new indications received
- Xdemvy – no information on what prevents recolonization, so could have recolonization and reinfestation; resistance wasn't a concern; could consider adding certain limit of the number of treatments per year; long term complications if not treated are mostly quality of life (consistent redness/irritation, loss of eye lashes, corneal scratching if eye lashes roll in, may feel poorly, vision affected); erythema scores improved over time but erythema alone wouldn't be a reason to retreat; good eye hygiene-subjective only, self-reported; abstaining from using false eyelashes or eye procedures was part of exclusion criteria

**DCH Decisions**

DCH Decisions from the July 2024 DUR Board meeting were provided in the DCH Decision section of the DUR Board binder.

**Upcoming Meetings**

The following upcoming meetings were announced:

- Drug Utilization Review Board  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE  
East Tower  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

2025 Meeting Dates To Be Determined

**Disclosure Forms**

Disclosure forms were received and reviewed by the Department for completeness for all Board members attending the meeting.

**Adjournment of Open Session**

The DUR Board voted to have the Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act of Georgia Section 50-14-1 – 50-14-6 and pursuant to Federal Law Section 1396R-8B3D. The individuals recorded in attendance with the Board members were from the Department of Community Health, Magellan Rx Management/Prime Therapeutics, NorthStar HealthCare Consulting, OptumRx, and pharmacy students. A motion was made by J. Russell (Rusty) May, Pharm.D. and seconded by Suzanne Walton, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP, to approve the closed session. There was a unanimous vote approving the closed session. The Chair, M. Celeste Fowler, Pharm.D., HCMB, adjourned the open session at approximately 11:47am, at which time members took a break then reconvened for the executive (closed) session.

Department of Community Health  
Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB)  
MINUTES

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

**Executive Session**

The Executive Session was held from 12:00pm to 12:29pm.

**Reconvening of Open Session**

The DUR Board reconvened for the open session at 12:32pm.

**Board's Recommendations to the Department**

After all clinical and financial evaluations and discussions, the DUR Board voted and presented the Department with the following recommendations for changes to the Preferred Drug List (PDL) or Physician Administered Drug List (PADL) as noted in Attachment A. All motions and votes are noted in Attachment B.

**Future Agenda Items**

There were no future agenda items noted.

**Conclusion**

At the conclusion of the open session and no other business for discussion, Chair Fowler adjourned the meeting at 12:36pm.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED, THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

---

M. Celeste Fowler, Pharm.D., HCMBA, Chair

**Drug Utilization Review Board**  
**Motions - Votes - New Drugs**  
**October 16, 2024**

New Drug		PDL Status	Motion - Recommendations	Additional Comments	
Muscular Dystrophy Agents					
Board Members - Present		Agamree	NP/PA	VOTES	
(Strike out, when absent)		Motion Maker (v)	Seconded By (v)	YES (v)	NO (v) ABSTAIN (v)
1	Collins, Douglas, M.D.				
2	Condra III, Alton, R.Ph.			✓	
3	Doad, Gurinder J.S., M.D., Ph.D.-Vice-Chair				
4	Fowler, M. Celeste, Pharm.D., HCMBA-Chair				
5	Gordon, Glenda Wrenn, M.D., MSHP, FAPA			✓	
6	Goyco, Otto, M.D.				
7	Jones, Torey, Pharm.D.				
8	Lesnick, Burton, M.D., FAAP			✓	
9	Lorys, Robyn, Pharm.D.			✓	
10	May, J. Russell (Rusty), Pharm.D.	✓		✓	
11	Miller, Osgood (Drew) A., R.Ph.		✓	✓	
12	Perri, Matthew, R.Ph., Pharm.D., Ph.D.			✓	
13	Rollins, Brent L., R.Ph., Ph.D.				
14	Toth, Danny, R.Ph.				
15	Walton, Suzanne, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP			✓	
TOTAL			8	0	0
New Drug		Drug	PDL Status	Motion - Recommendations	Additional Comments
NASH Agents					
Board Members - Present		Rezdiffra	NP/PA	VOTES	
(Strike out, when absent)		Motion Maker (v)	Seconded By (v)	YES (v)	NO (v) ABSTAIN (v)
1	Collins, Douglas, M.D.				
2	Condra III, Alton, R.Ph.			✓	
3	Doad, Gurinder J.S., M.D., Ph.D.-Vice-Chair				
4	Fowler, M. Celeste, Pharm.D., HCMBA-Chair				
5	Gordon, Glenda Wrenn, M.D., MSHP, FAPA		✓	✓	
6	Goyco, Otto, M.D.				
7	Jones, Torey, Pharm.D.				
8	Lesnick, Burton, M.D., FAAP			✓	
9	Lorys, Robyn, Pharm.D.	✓		✓	
10	May, J. Russell (Rusty), Pharm.D.			✓	
11	Miller, Osgood (Drew) A., R.Ph.			✓	
12	Perri, Matthew, R.Ph., Pharm.D., Ph.D.			✓	
13	Rollins, Brent L., R.Ph., Ph.D.				
14	Toth, Danny, R.Ph.				
15	Walton, Suzanne, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP			✓	
TOTAL			8	0	0
New Drug		Drug	PDL Status	Motion - Recommendations	Additional Comments

Drug Utilization Review Board  
Motions - Votes - New Drugs  
October 16, 2024

October 10, 2024

Potassium-Competitive Acid Blockers		Voquezna	N/A	NP/PA	VOTES	
Board Members - Present		Motion Maker (v)	Seconded By (v)	YES (v)	NO (v)	ABSTAIN (v)
(Strike out, when absent)						
1	Collins, Douglas, M.D.					
2	Condra III, Alton, R.Ph.	✓		✓		
3	Doad, Gurinder J.S., M.D., Ph.D.-Vice-Chair					
4	Fowler, M. Celeste, Pharm.D., HCMBA-Chair					
5	Gordon, Glenda Wrenn, M.D., MSHP, FAPA			✓		
6	Goyco, Otto, M.D.					
7	Jones, Torey, Pharm.D.					
8	Lesnick, Burton, M.D., FAAP			✓		
9	Lorys, Robyn, Pharm.D.			✓		
10	May, J. Russell (Rusty), Pharm.D.			✓		
11	Miller,Osgood (Drew) A., R.Ph.			✓		
12	Perri, Matthew, R.Ph., Pharm.D., Ph.D.			✓		
13	Rollins, Brent L., R.Ph., Ph.D.					
14	Toth, Danny, R.Ph.					
15	Walton, Suzanne, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP		✓	✓		
TOTAL				8	0	0
New Drug		Drug	PDL Status	Motion - Recommendations	Additional Comments	
Topical Ectoparasiticides		Xdemvy	N/A	NP/PA		
Board Members - Present		Motion Maker (v)	Seconded By (v)	YES (v)	NO (v)	ABSTAIN (v)
(Strike out, when absent)						
1	Collins, Douglas, M.D.					
2	Condra III, Alton, R.Ph.			✓		
3	Doad, Gurinder J.S., M.D., Ph.D.-Vice-Chair					
4	Fowler, M. Celeste, Pharm.D., HCMBA-Chair					
5	Gordon, Glenda Wrenn, M.D., MSHP, FAPA			✓		
6	Goyco, Otto, M.D.					
7	Jones, Torey, Pharm.D.					
8	Lesnick, Burton, M.D., FAAP			✓		
9	Lorys, Robyn, Pharm.D.			✓		
10	May, J. Russell (Rusty), Pharm.D.		✓	✓		
11	Miller,Osgood (Drew) A., R.Ph.	✓		✓		
12	Perri, Matthew, R.Ph., Pharm.D., Ph.D.			✓		
13	Rollins, Brent L., R.Ph., Ph.D.					
14	Toth, Danny, R.Ph.					
15	Walton, Suzanne, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP			✓		
TOTAL				8	0	0
New Drug		Drug	PDL Status	Motion - Recommendations	Additional Comments	
NHE3 Inhibitors		Xphozah	N/A	NP/PA		
Board Members - Present		Motion Maker (v)	Seconded By (v)	YES (v)	NO (v)	ABSTAIN (v)
(Strike out, when absent)						
1	Collins, Douglas, M.D.					



**Drug Utilization Review Board**  
**Motions - Votes - New Drugs**  
**October 16, 2024**

2	Condra III, Alton, R.Ph.		✓	✓		
3	Doad, Gurinder J.S., M.D., Ph.D.- <b>Vice-Chair</b>					
4	Fowler, M. Celeste, Pharm.D., HCMBBA- <b>Chair</b>					
5	Gordon, Glenda Wrenn, M.D., MSHP, FAPA			✓		
6	Goyco, Otto, M.D.					
7	Jones, Torey, Pharm.D.					
8	Lesnick, Burton, M.D., FAAP			✓		
9	Lorys, Robyn, Pharm.D.			✓		
10	May, J. Russell (Rusty), Pharm.D.			✓		
11	Miller, Osgood (Drew) A., R.Ph.			✓		
12	Perri, Matthew, R.Ph., Pharm.D., Ph.D.			✓		
13	Rollins, Brent L., R.Ph., Ph.D.					
14	Toth, Danny, R.Ph.					
15	Walton, Suzanne, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP	✓		✓		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Listed below are Preferred Drug List changes for the State of Georgia Fee-For-Service Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids Programs

Effective January 1, 2025 (see chart below)\*

DCH rebate vendor, Prime Therapeutics, has reviewed specific drugs at the October 2024 DURB meeting and corresponding supplemental rebate offers. The Preferred Drug List (PDL)/Providers' Administered Drug List (PADL) decisions/changes for categories reviewed are outlined below. For a full listing of our PDL, go to [www.dch.georgia.gov/pharmacy](http://www.dch.georgia.gov/pharmacy) and select the "Preferred Drug Lists" option; for the PADL, go to <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/> and select "Provider Information", "Fee Schedule", then "Providers' Administered Drug List."

PREFERRED AGENTS	NON-PREFERRED AGENTS
<b>DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY TREATMENTS</b>	
	AGAMREE SUSPENSION (ORAL) – PA
<b>METABOLIC DYSFUNCTION-ASSOCIATED STEATOHEPATITIS (MASH)</b>	
	REZDIFFRA (ORAL) – PA
<b>H. PYLORI TREATMENT</b>	
	VOQUEZNA (ORAL) – PA VOQUEZNA DUAL PAK (ORAL) – PA VOQUEZNA TRIPLE PAK (ORAL) – PA
<b>OPHTHALMIC DEMODEX BLEPHARITIS</b>	
	XDEM VY (OPHTHALMIC) – PA
<b>PHOSPHATE BINDERS</b>	
	XPHOZAH TABLET (ORAL) – PA

\*PADL drugs may be subject to a different effective date.



**Georgia Department of Community Health (GDCH)  
Opportunities for Pharmaceutical Manufacturer Input on Clinical  
Recommendations and Clinical Management Strategies by the  
Drug Utilization Review Board**

Clinical Information and Clinical Management Strategies relevant to the GDCH Medicaid Fee-For-Service program will be presented to the Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB) at each meeting through OptumRx by its vendor NorthStar HealthCare Consulting (NHC). Manufacturer input on new and existing drugs is welcomed and appreciated using these opportunities. **Please note that new drug entities are generally not reviewed by the DURB until the drug has been on the market for at least 6 months.**

**Ongoing Opportunity:**

**DUR Board Meeting Process:** New drugs, therapeutic classes and/or supplemental rebate classes under review will be posted to the DCH website at <http://dch.georgia.gov/durb-meeting-information> approximately 30 days prior to the Manufacturers' Forum. Input specific to the drugs under review from manufacturers are made directly to NHC via [GAMedicaid@nhc-llc.com](mailto:GAMedicaid@nhc-llc.com) and reported as appropriate by NHC at subsequent DURB meetings.

Upon review of information, and based on its expertise and discussions, the DURB makes recommendations to GDCH.

**Presentation Opportunity:**

**Manufacturers' Forum:** A forum prior to each relevant DURB meeting whereby manufacturers may present:

- 1) Clinical information relevant to a new drug on the market under review by the DURB at the next meeting.
- 2) Clinical information relevant to ongoing NHC/OptumRx clinical management strategies (e.g. review of drug benefit plan designs, new drugs coming to market, new indications, etc.) as deemed necessary by NHC/OptumRx.

Please see the Manufacturers' Forum Announcement at <http://dch.georgia.gov/durb-meeting-information>.

**Opportunity to Appeal to GDCH:**

**GDCH Review Process:** DURB recommendations are reviewed by GDCH for final decisions. Manufacturers may request an appeal meeting directly with GDCH after conclusion of each quarterly DURB meeting and **this appeal meeting must be conducted within 10 business days following the DURB meeting.** **Contact: Shirmarv Hodges at (404) 656-4044 or [shodges@dch.ga.gov](mailto:shodges@dch.ga.gov)**

Questions not addressed in this document may be sent to NorthStar  
HealthCare Consulting by e-mail: [GAMedicaid@nhc-llc.com](mailto:GAMedicaid@nhc-llc.com)

**2025**

## **Upcoming Meetings**

### **Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting**

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Department of Community Health Board Room - Room 470-A  
East Tower, Balcony Level

Wednesday, April 16, 2025: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Wednesday, July 16, 2025: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Wednesday, October 15, 2025: 10:00am – 2:00pm

## Drug Utilization Review Board

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Credentials</b>	<b>Specialty/Area of Expertise</b>
<b>Gurinder J.S. Doad, Chair</b>	M.D., Ph.D.	Family Practice
<b>Drew A. Miller, Vice-Chair</b>	R.Ph.	Retail Pharmacy
<b>Douglas C. Collins</b>	M.D.	Hematology/Oncology
<b>Alton Condra III</b>	R.Ph.	Inpatient Pharmacy
<b>M. Celeste Fowler</b>	Pharm.D., HCMBA	340B Pharmacy
<b>Otto C. Goyco</b>	M.D., FACP	Internal Medicine
<b>Torey A. Jones</b>	Pharm.D., MBA	340B Pharmacy
<b>Burton L. Lesnick</b>	M.D., FAAP	Pediatrics/Pediatric Pulmonology
<b>Robyn Lorys</b>	Pharm.D.	Academia - Professor
<b>J. Russell May</b>	Pharm.D.	Academia - Professor
<b>Matthew Perri III</b>	Ph.D., R.Ph.	Academia - Professor
<b>Brent L. Rollins</b>	R.Ph., Ph.D.	Academia - Professor
<b>Danny A. Toth</b>	R.Ph.	Pharmacy Benefit Plans
<b>Suzanne M. Walton</b>	Pharm.D., BCPS, BCOP	Hematology/Oncology
<b>Glenda Wrenn</b>	M.D.	Psychiatry, Academia - Professor