South Dakota Department of Social Services, Division of Medicaid Services
Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 12, 2025
1:00 – 3:00 pm CT

Members and DSS Staff

Michelle Baack, MD	X	Brandi Tackett, PharmD	X
Bill Ladwig, RPh	X	Deidra Van Gilder, PharmD, Chair	X
Sarah McGill, PharmD		Clarissa Barnes, MD, DSS Staff	X
Jesse Nieuwenhuis, MD	X	Mike Jockheck, DSS Staff	X
Kelley Oehlke, PharmD	X	Taylor Koerner, DSS Staff	X
Heather Preuss, MD			

Administrative Business

Van Gilder called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. The minutes of the September meeting were presented. Baack moved to approve. Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Prior Authorization Update (PA) and Statistics

The committee reviewed the PA activity report for the period July 1 to September 30, 2025. A total of 5,496 PAs were reviewed of which 139 requests (2.5%) were received via telephone, 100 requests (1.8%) were received via fax, 2,770 requests (50.4%) were reviewed electronically, and 2,487 requests (45.3%) were received via ePA.

Analysis of the Top 15 Therapeutic Classes and Drug Spend

The committee reviewed the top 15 therapeutic classes by total cost of claims for period July 1 to September 30, 2025. The top five therapeutic classes based on paid amount were atypical antipsychotics, immunomodulator agents, incretin mimetics, tumor necrosis factor inhibitors, and interleukin-mediated agents. Collectively, the top 15 therapeutic classes accounted for 18.26% of all claims. The committee also reviewed the top 50 drugs ranked by paid amount and claim volume. The top 50 drugs by amount paid represented 9.54% of total claims.

Old Business

Vykat XR

The committee reviewed Vykat XR utilization. Van Gilder recommended the adoption of a simplified PA framework. Mae Kwong, Medical Managed Liaison from Soleno Therapeutics, provided public comment. Baack moved to proceed with Commercial D criteria, excluding prescriber requirement. Ladwig seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Opioid Update

The committee reviewed opioid outcomes from the opioid initiatives, comparing results to the previous quarter. Opioid utilization and utilizers increased in Q3 2025, aligning with the broader trend across all drug utilization. The average daily opioid MME per utilizer remained stable. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

New Business

Bimzelx
The committee reviewed Bimzelx utilization. Rick Melbye, PharmD and Immunology Medical Outcomes Liaison from UCB Pharma provided public comment. The committee discussed implementing a 90-day trial for assessing response to the preferred product before permitting Bimzelx. Baack motioned to approve the criteria mandating a 90-day trial of preferred products by indication. Oehlke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dupixent
The committee reviewed new indications and PA considerations for Dupixent. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered. Nieuwenhuis recommended adopting State A criteria for the indication of bullous pemphigoid. Baack agreed but suggested removing the age requirement. Nieuwenhuis motioned and Baack seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Next the committee reviewed potential criteria for chronic spontaneous urticaria. Nieuwenhuis made the motion to approve State C criteria, requiring a trial of antihistamine and a leukotriene antagonist first, and removing the age limit. Ladwig seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Neffy
The committee reviewed Neffy utilization. Baack inquired about the shelf life of epinephrine products. Jockheck reported that Neffy utilization is currently low but may present management challenges in the future. Van Gilder invited public comments; none were provided. Following discussion of criteria for clinically valid reasons, Nieuwenhuis moved to adopt State B with revised wording to specify “medical necessity and/or contraindication to injectable product.” Baack seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Next, Baack made the motion to add the same criteria for Auvi-Q. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered. Ladwig seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Zilbrysq
The committee reviewed medical criteria for adoption under the pharmacy side. Ladwig motioned to approve medical criteria and was seconded by Oehlke. The motion was approved unanimously. Public comment was provided by Tobin Chettiath, VP of Medical Affairs from UCB Pharma.

Vyalev
The committee reviewed medical criteria for Vyalev for adoption under the pharmacy side. A motion was made by Baack to adopt the same criteria and seconded by Ladwig. The motion was approved unanimously. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

Anzupgo
Clinical information for Anzupgo was presented for review. Public comment was provided by Brent Milovac, Medical Science Liaison at Leo Pharma. A motion was made by Baack to adopt Commercial B criteria with addition of trial of Eucrisa and Opzelura. Oehlke seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Ladwig shared news of his retirement following 47 remarkable years at Lewis Drugs and as the last remaining original member of the committee. The committee expressed their appreciation and wished him well.

Adjournment
The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2026, with the June meeting tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2026. All motioned to adjourn and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm CT.