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

Friday, June 26, 2026
1:00 – 3:00 pm CT

Members and DSS Staff

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

Administrative Business
Van Gilder called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. The minutes of the March meeting were presented for review. Wilson moved to approve the minutes, and Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Prior Authorization Update (PA) and Statistics
The committee reviewed the PA activity report for the period of January 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026. During this period, a total of 6,564 PAs were reviewed. Of these, 159 requests (2.46%) were received by telephone, 106 requests (1.61%) were received by fax, 3,096 requests (47.2) were reviewed electronically, and 3,203 requests (47.8%) submitted 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 from January 1, 2026, to March 31, 2026. The top five therapeutic classes based on paid amount were immunomodulator agents, atypical antipsychotics, incretin mimetics, tumor necrosis factor inhibitors, and interleukin-mediated agents. These top 15 therapeutic classes comprise 16.77% of total claims. The committee also reviewed the top 50 drugs based on amount paid and number of claims. The top 50 drugs by amount paid constitute 7.95% of total claims. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

Old Business

Opioid update
The committee reviewed opioid outcomes compared to the previous quarter. There was a slight increase in opioid utilization during 1Q2026. The average MME/day/utilizer remained steady.

H. Pylori Review
The committee reviewed utilization of medications used in the treatment of *H. pylori* infection. Van Gilder noted utilization was concentrated primarily among lower-cost treatment options and indicated no significant concerns warranting PA. Jockheck suggested ongoing monitoring of utilization trends and suggested revisiting the topic in few years. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

New Business

Prescription drug utilization report
Jockheck presented a prescription utilization report. In response to a question from McGill regarding whether rebates are primarily associated with brand-name drugs, Jockheck explained that rebates are received for both brand and generic drugs, including supplemental rebates. Van Gilder asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

PA reviews
The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization for medications to treat rosacea and topical acne medications. Following discussion of rosacea therapies, Baack moved to remove the PA requirement for azelaic gel. Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Following discussion of the topical acne medications, Van Gilder recommended removing the PA for adapalene-benzoyl gel and implementing PA to select high-cost clindamycin products. Baack made the motion and McGill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of oral allergen medications. Following discussion, Baack moved to discontinue the Oral Allergen PA criteria. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of Altabax and Xepi. After review, committee recommended no changes to the current PA criteria. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB) medications. After review, committee recommended no changes to the current PA criteria. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of antidepressants. Following discussion, Van Gilder recommended removing fluoxetine solution and mirtazapine ODT. Baack made the motion and Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Wilson requested more information on patients utilizing branded antidepressants when generics are available.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of Auvelity and Exxua. After review, committee recommended no changes to the current PA criteria. E. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of antiemetics. Baack requested to review Nerus at the next meeting. Van Gilder recommended removing PA from granisetron and doxylamine-pyridoxine. McGill made the motion. Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee reviewed PA requests and utilization of non-sedating antihistamines. Following review, Baack moved to remove PA on desloratadine ODT, cetirizine ODT, and loratadine ODT. McGill seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. McGill noted that cetirizine chewable tablets appeared to be more expensive than Zyrtec chewable tablets and questioned package size differences could be the contribution to the cost discrepancy. An in-depth review was requested.

Nurtec ODT
The committee reviewed the proposed updates to the PA criteria for Nurtec ODT. Van Gilder commented that requiring trial and failure of injectable CGRP therapies is standard practice on commercial health plans. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered. Preuss moved to approve the recommended criteria as presented, and Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Tonmya
Clinical information for Tonmya was presented for review. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered. Following discussion, Baack motioned to adopt the PA criteria from State A with a requirement for 60-day trial and failure of cyclobenzaprine within the previous 120 days. Oehlke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Icotyde
Clinical information for Icotyde was presented for review. During the discussion, Jockheck clarified the state is seeking to require step through preferred injectable products. The committee requested that the criteria be streamlined and brought back for further review at the next meeting. Van Gilder called for public comments; none were offered.

Adjournment
The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2026. The December meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 11, 2026. All motioned and were in favor of adjourning the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm CT.