

**DCF Psychotropic Medication Advisory Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting Notes**

February 4, 2011 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 by Dr. Siegel. The minutes of the January 2011 PMAC meeting were reviewed and approved with minor spelling corrections. The minutes will be posted on the website.
2. Dr. William Halsey, DSS Director of Behavioral Health: Will be at the April 2011 PMAC meeting.
3. Dr. Margaret Rudin was introduced as the new APRN for the CMCU. Dr. Rudin replaces the vacancy left by Curtis Harmon. PMAC members introduced themselves in turn.
4. New DCF Leadership Team:
  - The acting commissioner is now officially the commissioner of DCF.
  - A notice was read detailing the 4 key individuals on the leadership team.
    - Janet Grandel: Deputy Commissioner - Medical
    - Libby Graham: Deputy Commissioner -Fiscal and Administrative
    - Fernando Muniz: Chief of Quality Control
    - Michael Williams: Reduce Bureaucracy and Enhance Local Family Services.
  - The new commissioner has an open door policy and wants to hear ideas.
5. DSS Pharmacy Analysis:
  - A list of committed children will be forwarded to Jason Gott. He will then run the analysis report.
6. Review Meds for Possible Removal From the Approved Drug List:
  - Loxapine (Loxitane), Thiothixine (Navane), Chlordiazepoxide (Librium), Buspirone (Buspar), Amantadine (Symmetrel): After discussion the Committee voted to table this item. The pharmacist consultants will research past minutes, policies, and guidelines and report back on what standards should be used when evaluating medications to be added to or deleted from the DCF Approved Drug List.
7. Review Meds for Possible Addition to the Approved Drug List:
  - Invega, Effexor, Saphras, Lurasidone: After discussion the Committee voted to table this item. The pharmacist consultants will research past minutes, policies, and guidelines and report back on what standards should be used

when evaluating medications to be added to or deleted from the DCF Approved Drug List.

8. Review Nutrition and Wellness Subcommittee Report:

- This report was reviewed and discussed in detail. Subjects discussed included:
  - Hypertension – definition in pediatrics.
  - Various department guidelines regarding using food as a reward/punishment. This should be eliminated or changed.
  - Menu review: elimination of sugary drinks such as soda and limiting juice intake. The final recommendation was to limit sweetened drinks.
  - The screen time needs to be defined in the introductions (p4).
  - Food in institutions should be provided by dietary services only. Food should not be brought in by staff.
  - Any extra food brought in should be limited and monitored by dietary services and not staff. The training of staff on this issue was discussed.
  - Several typo's were noted and corrected.
  - Several grammatical errors were noted and corrected.
  - Cost neutrality discussed. Recommendation made to eliminate any references to cost.
  - Salt intake discussed as a possible issue. Recommend adding “reduce salt” to the document (4<sup>th</sup> bullet, #6).
  - All abbreviations should be spelled out in the document.
  - Ultimately the PMAC voted to endorse this report.

9. New Items: A member reported: Be aware that DCF is asking that residentials should handle all circumstances (i.e no hospitalization, etc.)

10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

David S. Aresco