



## The Bulletin of Medicaid Drug Utilization Review in Iowa

### DUR Commission Members

Bruce Alexander, R.Ph., Pharm.D., BCPP  
Connie J. Connolly, R.Ph.  
Laura Ann Griffith, D.O.  
Craig Logemann, R.Ph., Pharm.D., BCPS  
Ronald W. Miller, M.D., M.B.A.  
Dan Murphy, R.Ph.  
Susan Parker, Pharm.D.  
Richard M. Rinehart, M.D.  
Sara Schutte-Schenck, D.O., FAAP

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### DUR Professional Staff

Thomas Kline, D.O.,  
IME Medical Director  
Johnna Neary, R.Ph., MBA,  
DUR Commission Director  
Cheryl Clarke, R.Ph., CDM  
Janalyn Phillips, R.Ph.

## Commission Welcomes New Member

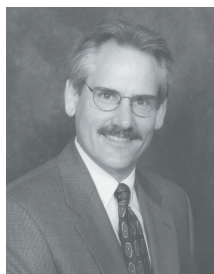
Dr. Laura Ann Griffith has been named as the newest member of the Iowa Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Commission. The Commission and the Department of Human Services welcome her and look forward to working with her throughout her four-year term.



Laura Ann Griffith,  
D.O.

Dr. Griffith is a physician with Concentra Healthcare specializing in occupational health. She is a 1988 graduate of the University of South Dakota with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. Dr. Griffith then attended the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines and graduated in 1993 with a Doctor of Osteopathy degree. Dr. Griffith then completed both an internship and a residency at Des Moines General Hospital from 1993-1996. Prior to joining Concentra, she was a general internist at the Mater Clinic in Knoxville and at Des Moines Internal Medicine. Dr. Griffith is also a guest lecturer at Des Moines University. She is the Vice President of Sigma Sigma Phi National Honorary Osteopathic Fraternity and is a member of the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the Iowa Osteopathic Association, the Iowa Medical Society, and the Polk County Medical Society. Dr. Griffith joined the Commission in July 2005; her term will expire in 2009.

### Existing members of the Commission include the following dedicated professionals:



Bruce Alexander, R.Ph.,  
Pharm.D., BCPP

Dr. Bruce Alexander is a clinical pharmacist specialist in the Departments of Pharmacy and Psychiatry at the Iowa City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He is also a Professor (Clinical) in the Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, The University of Iowa as well as Professor Emeritus (Clinical) in the College of Pharmacy at UI. He graduated from Drake University College of Pharmacy and received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Minnesota. He is board certified in Psychiatric Pharmacy. He has been active in the Iowa Pharmacy Association serving in the House of Delegates, on the Board of Trustees, and is currently chair of the Iowa Pharmacy Recovery Network. Dr. Alexander's term will expire in 2006.



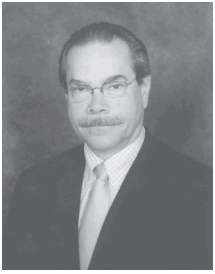
Connie Connolly,  
R.Ph.

Connie Connolly is the Lead Pharmacist at Mercy Family Pharmacy-Regency, a clinic pharmacy in Mason City. She is a 1992 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. She has served as a trustee for the Iowa Pharmacy Association and is currently on the Iowa Board of Optometric Examiners. Connie has varied practice experiences including hospital pharmacy, long term care consulting, pharmaceutical care consulting and most extensively community pharmacy. Her term will expire in 2007.



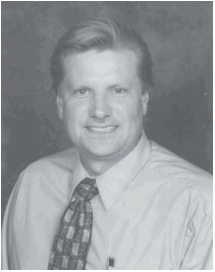
Craig Logemann, R.Ph.,  
Pharm.D., BCPS

Dr. Craig Logemann is a clinical pharmacist at the Urbandale Family Physicians Clinic. He graduated with his Bachelor Degree in Pharmacy from the University of Iowa in 1988. He completed a pharmacy residency at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Later he received his Pharm.D. degree from the University of Minnesota. He was an Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy for nine years prior to accepting his current position. Dr. Logemann's term will expire in 2008.



**Ronald W. Miller,  
M.D., M.B.A.**

Dr. Ron Miller is a family practice physician in the Cedar Rapids area. A graduate of the University of Iowa College of Medicine, he also received an MBA from the University of Iowa. Dr. Miller has served on utilization review committees and clinical improvement committees at hospitals in the Cedar Rapids area. He also serves as Medical Director of St. Luke's Nutrition and Weight Management Center and as Chair of the Linn County Health Services Board. Dr. Miller is a Fellow in the American Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Miller was reappointed for a second term, which will expire in 2007.



**Dan Murphy,  
R.Ph.**

Dan Murphy is a pharmacist practicing at Main Healthcare Pharmacy in Davenport. Since 1989, he has been a consultant to several long-term care facilities. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1984 and became certified in geriatric pharmacy in 1999. He has been active with the Iowa Pharmacy Association including past participation on the Medicaid Advisory Committee and the Task Force on Long-term Care. His term will expire in 2009.



**Susan Parker,  
Pharm.D.**

Dr. Susan Parker is the Pharmacy Consultant in the Bureau of Long Term Care for the Department of Human Services and serves as liaison to the Commission. She graduated with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Mercer Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. She is also a graduate of Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree Physician Assistant. Dr. Parker brings to the Commission a variety of experience in health care as an Iowa Medicaid drug prior authorization pharmacist, community pharmacist, and physician assistant. She is a member of the National Medicaid Pharmacy Administrators Association and the Western Medicaid Pharmacy Administrators Association.



**Richard Rinehart,  
M.D.**

Dr. Rick Rinehart is a staff psychiatrist at the Iowa City VA Medical Center and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics. He graduated from Ohio State University and completed his residency at the University of Iowa. He was in private practice in Cedar Rapids for 12 years prior to accepting his current position. Dr. Rinehart's term will expire in 2007.



**Sara Schutte-Schenck,  
D.O., FAAP**

Dr. Sara Schutte-Schenck is a graduate of Drake University and the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences. She completed her pediatric residency at Blank Children's Hospital and is currently in practice in Des Moines. Dr. Schutte-Schenck is board certified by the American Academy of Pediatrics. She previously served on P & T committees as well as credentialing committees for SecureCare of Iowa. Currently, she serves as a member of the Utilization Management Committee for Coventry Healthcare of Iowa. Dr. Schutte-Schenck's term will expire in 2008.

## Professional Staff Changes

The Commission thanks Julie Kuhle, R.Ph. who has provided 13 years of service to the Iowa Medicaid DUR Commission and served as Project Coordinator for 5 years. Julie has joined the Iowa Foundation for Medical Care as Manager of Pharmacy Programs.



**Johnna Neary,  
R.Ph., MBA**

Johnna Neary has accepted the position as the Director of the Iowa Medicaid DUR Program. She assumes many of the drug utilization review activities for which Julie Kuhle was responsible. Johnna is located at the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise site. She also continues her work at the Drake University College of Pharmacy where she has been involved in teaching several practica and the Hospital Pharmacy IPPE since 2003. Johnna graduated with a BS in Pharmacy from the University of Iowa in 1988 and received her MBA from City University in 2000. She spent most of her career in long term care, primarily with NeighborCare. She began her career as a consultant pharmacist, managed several pharmacy locations, served as a Divisional Quality Manager and as an Area Director with operational and fiscal responsibilities for multiple sites/states. Most recently, she served as a contract consultant doing drug regimen review.



**Thomas Kline, D.O.**

Dr. Thomas Kline, D.O. is the Medical Director for the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise. Dr. Kline serves on the Commission staff in order to facilitate coordination among the various IME programs. Dr. Kline was a family physician for 21 years. He received his Bachelor's degree from Penn State University and his DO from The College of Osteopathic Medicine in Des Moines. In addition to his background as a family physician, Dr. Kline has served as the medical director for several managed care plans including employment with United Healthcare of Iowa, SecureCare of Iowa and Principal Health Care. He also has 2 years-experience as chair of the Quality Assurance Committee for United Healthcare of Iowa. In addition to his role on the DUR Commission, Dr. Kline also serves on the Medicaid P&T Committee.

### **Outgoing Staff Member of the Commission**

Sandi Birchem, D.O. recently completed her service with the Iowa Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Commission. The Commission and the Department of Human Services wish to thank Dr. Birchem for her many years of dedicated service to the Commission and the recipients of Iowa Medicaid.

## Medicaid Questions: Questions regarding Medicaid issues should be directed to:

Provider Services	1-800-338-7909	515-725-1004 (local)	<a href="mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us">imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us</a>
Member Services	1-800-338-8366	515-725-1003 (local)	<a href="mailto:imemberservices@dhs.state.ia.us">imemberservices@dhs.state.ia.us</a>
Pharmacy PA Help Desk	1-877-776-1567	515-725-1006 (local)	<a href="mailto:info@iowamedicaidpdl.com">info@iowamedicaidpdl.com</a>
Pharmacy POS Help Desk	1-877-463-7671	515-725-1107 (local)	<a href="mailto:info@iowamedicaidpos.com">info@iowamedicaidpos.com</a>



## **Iowa Medicaid Drug Utilization Review**

Iowa Medicaid Enterprise  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50315

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## **Iowa Medicaid DUR Commission Reports Successful Year**

The Iowa Medicaid DUR Commission recently released its annual report of activities for state fiscal year ending June 2005 (sfye05). Established in 1984, the Iowa Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Commission is charged with promoting the appropriate and cost-effective use of medications within the Iowa Medicaid patient population. The Iowa Medicaid DUR Commission is comprised of four physicians, four pharmacists, and one Department of Human Services representative. Commission activities include performing patient-focused reviews, problem-focused reviews, and administrative reviews to meet its objectives.

Patient- and problem-focused reviews are evaluated 9-12 months after interventions to determine the acceptance rate of the Commission's suggestions, their impact on patient care, and an estimation of fiscal impact. The most recent state fiscal year ending 2005 (sfye05) annual report indicated an overall estimated cost savings of \$4.02 for every dollar spent on the program, a significant improvement over the sfye04 results of \$2.93 for every dollar. The federal match for this contract is 75% so program savings per state dollar invested is \$16.08 savings per state dollar. Total annualized cost savings estimates increased by approximately 40% when comparing sfye05 savings of \$1,966,769.27 to sfye04 savings of \$1,406,445.02. Savings from patient-focused review increased over 40% from sfye04. The impact rate for patient-focused review continues to remain relatively steady at 34% but the dollars saved per profile evaluated rose significantly to \$616.09 in sfye05, compared to \$431 (sfye04), \$298 (sfye03), and \$319 (sfye02).

Upon request of the Department, the Commission recommends new or updated guidelines for use in the drug prior authorization program. During the sfye05, the Commission reviewed all therapeutic categories currently requiring prior authorization as well as therapeutic criteria to support operations of the preferred drug list. Prior authorization recommendations were made for 30 medications and/or medication categories during sfye05. The Commission also reviews and recommends prospective drug utilization review criteria to be utilized by the Department. Ten prospective DUR edits were recommended to the Department by the Commission in sfye05.

Three DUR DIGEST newsletters were written and distributed by the Commission to the Medicaid provider community during this fiscal year. The Commission also maintains a web site at [www.iadur.org](http://www.iadur.org) that contains information regarding upcoming meeting dates, locations, and agendas. Minutes from previous meetings are available as well as past issues of the DUR DIGEST.