

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD MEETING
Monday, September 29, 2025- Virtual
Minutes

AGENDA ITEM 1

Call the Meeting to Order

Chair Van Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Van Mitchell, Gerard Anderson, Ph.D., Eberechukwu Onukwugha, MS, Ph.D., Stephen Rockower, MD

AGENDA ITEM 2

Approval of minutes

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the July 28, 2025 meeting minutes. Dr. Anderson made the motion, which Dr. Rockower seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

The July 28, 2025 closed session minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

Action: Minutes APPROVED.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Proclamation- Dr. Joseph Levy

Executive Director York read a proclamation detailing the many contributions of Dr. Joseph Levy and thanking him for five years of service to the Board.

Dr. York then announced the appointment of Dr. Georges C. Benjamin to the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Opportunity for Public Comment

The Board received five written comments which were shared with the Board and posted to the website in advance of the meeting.

Seven people provided oral public comment:

1. Reuben Collins, President, Charles County Board of Commissioners
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations
2. Marc Elrich, County Executive, Montgomery County
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations
3. Steuart Pittman, County Executive, Anne Arundel County
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations
4. Calvin Ball, County Executive, Howard County
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations
5. Derek Flowers, Value of Care Coalition
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations

6. George Huntley, Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations
7. Tiffany Westrich-Robertson, EACH/PIC Coalition
Agenda Item V: Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations

AGENDA ITEM 5

Policy Review Process- Drivers and Policy Recommendations

Executive Director York provided an update on the Cost Review Study Process for Farxiga and Jardiance including the preliminary determinations made at the July 29, 2025 meeting. Dr. York explained the policy review process and summarized the feedback provided at the Informational Hearings on September 3, 2025. Dr. York also summarized the Stakeholder Council feedback from the August 25, 2025 meeting.

Executive Director York then discussed preliminary policy recommendations for Farxiga and Jardiance for further development, analysis and consideration. When recommending policy options (both UPL and non-UPL), under COMAR 14.01.05.05B and C, Board staff may analyze the following: drivers of the affordability challenge; how the policy addresses a driver; strengths and weaknesses of the policy; possible implementation of the policy through legislation, regulation, or enforcement; and potential impacts of the policy.

Executive Director York also identified certain drivers of the affordability challenge and policy options. The following Non-UPL policies were discussed: WAC Inflation Penalty, Real Time Benefit Tool, Patient Navigator Program, and delinking PBM Compensation.

The Board recommended staff continue to explore and develop non-UPL policy options around Farxiga and Jardiance including the WAC Inflation Penalty, PBM Compensation, and Patient Navigator Program.

UPL Policy options including strengths and weaknesses were also discussed around Farxiga and Jardiance. The Board requested additional information around potential cost savings that may be realized in connection with an UPL for Farxiga and Jardiance.

The presentation is posted on the Board page of the website.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Office Lease Approval

Executive Director York advised that the current PDAB lease will expire in February 2026 and that the Board will be asked to approve new lease terms at an upcoming meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Administrative Updates - New Board Member

- Dr. Georges C. Benjamin's appointment was announced under agenda item 3.

- The PDAB has two open staff positions: Data Analyst and Administrative Specialist.
- The next steps for Jardiance and Farxiga will be for staff to publish a draft report of the Cost Review Study Preliminary Determination for public comment.
- Staff received public comments on the draft dossiers for Ozempic and Trulicity. The final versions of those dossiers will be posted in the near future.
- Staff is completing the Request for Information process for Skyrizi and Dupixent.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Chair's Update

Chair Mitchell proceeded to have a brief discussion around the November 17, 2025 PDAB meeting, regarding location. Chair Mitchell thanked Dr. Levy for his service. Board meeting dates for 2026 are being finalized.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Adjournment

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Anderson made the motion and Dr. Rockower seconded. The Board unanimously passed the motion.

Adjourned at 4:46 PM.