

**MARYLAND PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY STAKEHOLDER COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING**

April 27, 2026

Minutes

Agenda Item 1

Call to Order:

Co-Chair Lorriane Diana called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM.

(Roll Call) Stakeholder Council Members Present:

Pallavi Arora, Shawn Brown, Angela Bryant, Allison Ciborowski, Lorraine Diana, Robert Embry, Candace Hall, Jim Gutman, Marc Nicole, Shaun O'Brien, Amy Prentice, Monica Elise Proctor Wilson, Danita Tolson, Sean Tunis, Joseph Winn

Agenda Item 2

February 23, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Diana deferred Approval of the Minutes to later in the meeting to satisfy the quorum requirement.

Agenda Item 3

Opportunity for Public Comment

The PDASC did not receive any written comments and there were no requests for oral public comment.

Agenda Item 4

Update on Ongoing Cost Review Studies

Executive Director Andrew York provided a short verbal update on the Cost Review Study process. Dr. York gave an update on the six drugs chosen for Cost Review Study and their current status in the process. The PDASC had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 5

Federal Government PBM Updates and Maximum Fair Price Implementation- Benjamin N. Rome, MD, MPH, and Matthew Martin, M.A., Program on Regulation, Therapeutics and Law (PORTAL)

Dr. Benjamin Rome and Matthew Martin from PORTAL came to present to the PDASC on federal government PBM updates and Maximum Fair Price Implementation.

Dr. Benjamin Rome shared recent changes in Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) reform in the United States regarding many of the concerns regarding prescription drug affordability. He reviewed regulations that can take effect in the coming years to the top three PBMs.

Matt Martin then shared an overview and current updates to the Medicare Maximum Fair Price Negotiation Program (MFP). The first round of MFPs that took effect in 2026 resulted in average drug prices being 22 percent lower than what Medicare previously paid. He reviewed emerging issues of concern as well open questions that have yet to be answered during implementation.

The PDASC had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the presentation. This presentation is posted on the stakeholder council page of the website.

Agenda Item 2- Approval of Minutes (Deferred)

Co-Chair Diana exercised her prerogative to consider Agenda Item 2- Approval of Minutes out of order since a quorum had now been established.

Co-Chair Diana asked for a motion to approve the February 23, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted. Shaun O'Brien made the motion, which Danita Tolson seconded. The PDASC unanimously approved the minutes.

Action: Minutes APPROVED

Agenda Item 6

Cost Review Study Process and Policy Review Process Regulations Update -Circumstances Presentation and Input

Co-Chair Diana explained the purpose of the upcoming presentation and reviewed the materials already received by the PDASC to facilitate the discussion today. Co-Chair Diana explained that the PDAB received feedback from the Stakeholder Council at the February 23, 2026 meeting on updates to the Cost Review Study Process and Policy Review Process regulations. This feedback was presented to the Board at the March 23, 2026 PDAB meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to gather input on "Defining Circumstances that Indicate an Affordability Challenge."

Christina Shaklee, using a presentation, explained that staff would like the PDASC to help identify circumstances under which the use of a prescription drug product may create or has created affordability challenges for the State health care system or high out-of-pocket costs to patients. Ms. Shaklee provided potential themes and example circumstances to help guide the discussion.

The PDASC was asked to answer the following questions:

- What are some circumstances within these main themes that the PDAB could consider?
- Can those circumstances be effectively evaluated? If so, how? What data sources are available?
- Are there other themes missing from this list?

The PDASC had the opportunity to answer the questions and provide feedback. This feedback included:

- Investigating the potential impact of off- label use;
- A new theme emerged from the discussion: Consider Barriers to Affordable Access for Insured Patients;
- Other discussion topics were challenges with obtaining data, evidence of utilization beyond clinical need, and utilization of branded drugs vs. generic drugs.

The presentation is posted on the stakeholder council page of the PDAB website.

Agenda Item 7

Administrative Update

- The PDASC currently has five appointment vacancies. Staff is working diligently with the appointing offices to get those filled as soon as possible. Ms. Shaklee thanked Deron Johnson, Kathleen Loughran, and John Elliot for their service to the PDASC.

Agenda Item 7

Co-Chair's Update

- The next regularly scheduled PDASC Meeting is on Monday, June 22, 2026.

Agenda Item 8

Adjournment

Co-Chair Nicole thanked everyone for attending the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shaun O'Brien made the motion which was seconded by Jim Gutman.

Adjourned at 3:14 PM.