



**Division of Health Care, Quality, Financing and Purchasing
Center for Operations and Pharmacy Management
Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday June 5, 2007
8:00 AM
EDS
171 Service Avenue Building 1 Suite 100
Warwick, Rhode Island**

P&T Members Present:

Tara Higgins, RPh, CGP, CDOE
Rita Marcoux, RPh, MBA, Co-chairperson
Kristina Ward, Pharm D
David Feeney, RPh, Chairperson
Gregory Allen, MD
L. McTyeire Johnston, MD
Richard Wagner, MD
Mathew Salisbury, MD
Charles Gross

Others Present:

Paula Avarista, RPh, MBA (RI Medical Assistance Program)
Ray Maxim, MD (RI Medical Assistance)
Gail Davis, RN (Electronic Data Systems)
Ann Bennett (Electronic Data Systems)
Karen Mariano, RPh (Electronic Data Systems)
Chris Andrews, Pharm D (Coventry Health Systems)

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Feeney at 8:05 AM. The Committee welcomed new member Charles Gross who is replacing Cynthia Barry who had previously resigned. After welcoming and introductory remarks, the public comments portion began. Representatives from the following Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Companies gave presentations: Schering-Plough, Sanofi-Aventis, GlaxoSmithKline, Takeda, Endo, Alpharma, Pfizer, Ortho-McNeil Janssen, and Merck & Co. Also a presentation was given by Kevin Dushay, MD of Rhode Island Hospital.

Chris Andrews from Coventry Health Systems gave an overview of the drug classes that were on the agenda to be reviewed. A discussion among the committee members followed each class review. Voting took place at the end of each review. It was decided to table the inclusion of short-acting narcotics and NSAIDs until the next meeting after further analysis is done. To prevent disruption of care for those experiencing chronic pain it was decided that since Oxycontin/Oxycodone ER was no longer a preferred agent, all those currently on this medication for at least three months would be grandfathered in.

The chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:05 AM.