

# The Executive Office of Health & Human Services

## Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

8:00 AM

Gainwell Technologies

Location: OHHS Virks Building, 3 West Rd, Cranston, RI 02920



**P & T Members Present:** Todd Brothers, PharmD  
Nickolai Morin, PharmD  
Bill Quirk, RPh  
Matt Salisbury, MD  
Rick Wagner, MD  
Tracey Taviera, PharmD

**Absent:** Karen Mariano, RPh (Gainwell Technologies)

**Others Present:** Ann Bennett, MHA (Gainwell Technologies)  
Jerry Fingerut, MD, Medical Director, (EOHHS)  
Maryanne Guertin, RPh (Gainwell Technologies)  
Kathryn Novak, RPh (Magellan Medicaid Administration)

**The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson once a quorum was in attendance - 8:10 am.** Chairman Tracey Taviera called the meeting to order and asked for introductions from the committee and those supporting the meeting. The previous meeting minutes were reviewed and by vote were accepted as presented.

**Public testimony included the following speakers and topics.**

Follow up information should be sent to [karen.mariano@gainwelltechnologies.com](mailto:karen.mariano@gainwelltechnologies.com) for distribution to the committee.

P & T Speakers	Affiliation	Topic
Madeline Shurtleff	Otsuka	Abilify Asimtufii and Rexulti
Mark Golik	Neurocrine Biosciences	Ingrezza for Huntington's Disease
Arlene Meijia	Pierre Fabre	Hemangenol
Daniel Kim	Alkermes	Aristada
Kristen Heard	Neurelis	Valtoco
Venessa Medina	United Therapeutics	Tyvaso

Magellan Medicaid Administration (MMA) presented the following categories for therapeutic class reviews with discussion from the pharmacy and therapeutics committee.

Therapeutic Categories				Vote: Yes	Vote: No	Abstain	Motion
Angiotensin Modulators/Combinations	Angiotensin Modulators	Oral	No changes recommended	6	0	0	Passes
	Other	Spray	New product Zavzpret discussed, a calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) receptor antagonist. Not indicated for the preventive treatment of migraine.  Ubrelvy change to non-preferred.  Nurtec ODT change to preferred. .	5	0	0	Passes
Antianginal & Anti-Ischemic		Oral	No changes recommended	6	0	0	Passes
Anticoagulants		Oral, subcutaneous	No changes recommended	6	0	0	Passes
Beta-Blockers		Oral	No changes recommended. Commentary: Committee member asked about Hemangenol new formulation for propranolol liquid indicated for infantile hemangioma and if on any other state's PDL. Presenter unaware. Most children in RI are on MCO.	6	0	0	Passes
Calcium Channel Blockers		Oral	No changes recommended.	6	0	0	Passes

Therapeutic Categories				Vote: Yes	Vote: No	Abstain	Motion
Lipotropics,	Other	Oral, IV, Subcutaneous	Recommend omega-3 acid ethyl esters as preferred. Commentary: Evkeeza expanded indication for children as young as age 5 years old to treat elevated LDL levels. Leqvio expanded indication to include those with comorbidities, such as high blood pressure and diabetes, who have not yet had a cardiovascular event.	6	0	0	Passes
Lipotropics, statins	Statins	Oral	No changes recommended. Commentary: New formulations of atorvastatin. Atorvaliq first oral suspension formulation of atorvastatin and Ezallor sprinkle	6	0	0	Passes
PAH agents		Oral, and inhaled.	No changes recommended. Commentary: Revatio expanded indication for pediatric patients 1 to 17 years old to improve ability to exercise and improve pulmonary hemodynamics in those too young to perform standardized exercise testing. New formulation of sildenafil Liqrev oral suspension.	6	0	0	Passes
Platelet aggregation inhibitors		Oral	No changes recommended.	6	0	0	Passes
Vasodilators, coronary		Oral, transdermal, sublingual	No changes recommended.	6	0	0	Passes
Alzheimer's agents		Oral, transdermal, IV	No changes recommended. Commentary: Leqembi received traditional approval to treat early Alzheimer's disease	6	0	0	Passes
Anticonvulsants		Oral, rectal	Recommend Nayzilam as preferred. Commentary: Finlepta is no longer classified as CIV. New formulation for lacosamide, extended release, Motpoly XR. Much wrap occurs in this category since most of this population has another insurance plan as primary.	6	0	0	Passes

Therapeutic Categories				Vote: Yes	Vote: No	Abstain	Motion
Antidepressants	Other	Oral, injection	No changes recommended.	6	0	0	Passes
Antidepressants	SSRIs	Oral	Recommend fluoxetine tablets as preferred. Commentary: The FDA approved Lexapro for treatment of generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) to include patients aged 7 and older.	6	0	0	Passes
Antiparkinson's agents		Oral, subcutaneous	No changes recommended. Commentary: Mirapex brand name has been discontinued.	6	0	0	Passes
Antipsychotics		Oral, intramuscular, inhalation	Recommend lurasidone, Abilify Asimtufii, Aristada, and Uzedly as preferred. Recommend Latuda and risperidone odt as nonpreferred. Commentary: Committee member abstained stating this class of medications should be open. Committee was assured that if a person is stable with a medication, it will be covered and there is a PA process if there is need for specific medication. Another committee member stated long-acting antipsychotics should have Phase IV studies for increased adherence. Rexulti new indication treatment of agitation associated with dementia due to Alzheimer's disease.	5	0	1	Passes
Movement Disorders		Oral	Recommend Austedo XR as preferred. Recommend Ingrezza as non-preferred. Commentary: Austedo XR is a new formulation and approved for a new indication of tardive dyskinesia and chorea associated with Huntington's disease.	6	0	0	Passes
Multiple Sclerosis agents		Intramuscular, oral, Subcutaneous	Recommend fingolimod and teriflunimide as preferred. Commentary: Updated indication Tascenso ODT to include clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting disease, and active secondary progressive disease, in patients 10 years of age and older and new available strength 0.5mg. Previous the indication included the addition weighing less than or equal to 40 kg and the only strength available was 0.25mg. A new agent Briumvi was approved for relapsing MS.	6	0	0	Passes

Therapeutic Categories				Vote: Yes	Vote: No	Abstain	Motion
Neuropathic pain	Other	Oral, topical	No changes recommended. Commentary: Lidoderm brand product has been discontinued by manufacturer. Once supply has phased out then go to nonpreferred	6	0	0	Passes
Sedative hypnotics		Oral	No changes recommended. Commentary: New strength of zolpidem 7.5mg capsule. Not generic for any brand name product	6	0	0	Passes
Stimulants and related agents		Oral	Recommend clonidine ER, dexamethylphenidate ER, and methylphenidate solution as preferred. Commentary: Discussion of shortages and DEA and FDA recommendations regarding shortages. Temporary decisions to pay for what is available. Committee member made a concern regarding clinical equivalence verse bioequivalence of brand verse generic agents regarding this class of medications.	6	0	0	Passes
Antihypertensives		Transdermal, oral	Recommend clonidine transdermal and clonidine (AG) transdermal as preferred. Commentary: Catapres brand name has been discontinued by the manufacturer.	6	0	0	Passes
HAE treatments		Intravenous, subcutaneous	Recommend icatibant as preferred. Recommend Firazyr as nonpreferred.	6	0	0	Passes
Hemophilia treatment		Intravenous, subcutaneous	No changes recommended.	6	0	0	Passes
Hypoglycemics, incretin mimetics/enhancers		Oral, subcutaneous	No changes recommended. Commentary: Ozempic early cessation of FLOW study due to strong efficacy signals. Committee member asking if tracking diagnoses for GLP-1 agonists diabetes verse weight loss. Different rebates considering which medication and diagnosis. Discussion of FDA warning to not use compounded Ozempic and Wegovy products.				

Therapeutic Categories			Vote: Yes	Vote: No	Abstain	Motion
Weight management agents	Oral, subcutaneous	No changes recommended. Commentary: Per April 2023 meeting committee decided to have Contrave on PDL. However, Contrave is no longer rebateable and cannot be put on PDL. Discussion of CDC press release stating obesity rates remain high. States are figuring out which prevention and treatments they will cover. Zepbound new GLP-1 indicated for weight loss recent approval. Soliciting offers for spring.	6	0	0	Passes

#### 2024 Schedule

April 9th

June 4<sup>th</sup>

September 10<sup>th</sup>

December 10th

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 am