



## Pharmacy Services San Francisco Health Plan Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee

Wednesday, October 16, 2024  
7:30AM – 9:30AM  
50 Beale St., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Francisco, CA 94119

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Steve O'Brien, MD	<b>Minutes:</b> Luke Nelson (SFHP Pharmacy Vendor Oversight Program Manager)
<b>Meeting Objective:</b>	Vote on proposed formulary and prior authorization (PA) criteria changes	<b>Type of meeting:</b> Quarterly
<b>Member Votes Cast:</b>	<p><b>Committee Chair:</b> Steve O'Brien, MD (SFHP Chief Medical Officer)</p> <p><b>Voting Members:</b> Brian Ellsworth, PharmD (SFHP Pharmacy Director) Steven Wozniak, MD James Lee, MD Joseph Pace, MD Ronald Ruggiero, PharmD Linda Truong, PharmD Robert (Brad) Williams, MD</p>	<p><b>Others in Attendance:</b> Tammie Chau, PharmD (SFHP Clinical Pharmacist) Jessica Shost, PharmD (SFHP Clinical Pharmacist) Katrina (Katie) Vo, PharmD (SFHP Clinical Pharmacist) Steve Nolan, PharmD (Prime Therapeutics Pharmacist) Ai Quynh Nguyen, PharmD (Prime Therapeutics Pharmacist) Sue Chan (SFHP Pharmacy Compliance Program Manager)</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> none</p>
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Nicholas Jew, MD Maria Lopez, PharmD Jamie Ruiz, MD	
<b>Meeting Materials:</b>	<p>Summary of all approved changes is posted under "Materials" section at <a href="https://www.sfhf.org/about-us/committees/pharmacy-and-therapeutics-committee/">https://www.sfhf.org/about-us/committees/pharmacy-and-therapeutics-committee/</a></p> <p>SFHP formulary and prior authorization criteria are located at <a href="https://www.sfhf.org/providers/pharmacy-services/sfhf-formulary/">https://www.sfhf.org/providers/pharmacy-services/sfhf-formulary/</a></p>	

	Topic	Brought By	Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order	Steve O'Brien, MD	<p>The meeting was called to order at 7:32 am.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance/Quorum</li> <li>Agenda overview</li> <li>Conflict of interest check</li> </ul>	Introduction and agenda topics done.
2.	Chief Medical Director and Pharmacy Director Informational Updates	Steve O'Brien, MD Brian Ellsworth, PharmD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Brian Ellsworth: new Pharmacy Director introduction and background</li> <li>Medicare D-SNP and STARS updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing for implementation with modeling and consultants</li> <li>Pharmacy specific STARS to be discussed at January 2025 P&amp;T</li> <li>Pharmacy Team will be growing to meeting D-SNP needs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	n/a

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HEDIS and Satisfaction metrics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pharmacy is meeting nearly 90% of the 50+ measures</li> </ul> </li> <li>New PBM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation with HW HMO in July 2026</li> <li>Implementation with D-SNP in January 2026</li> </ul> </li> <li>Health Services Updates: new Senior Medical Director Rina Shah</li> </ul>	
3.	Review and Approval of July 17, 2024, P&T minutes <i>(pp.5 - 12 of July 2024 P&amp;T Packet)</i>	Steve O'Brien, MD	The committee approved the minutes as presented.	<b>VOTE:</b> <b><u>Review and Approval of July 17, 2024, P&amp;T Minutes</u></b> Approved minutes as presented.  <i><u>Vote: Unanimous approval (6/6)</u></i>
4.	<b>Adjourned to Closed Session</b>	Steve O'Brien, MD	Closed session began: 7:38 am.	
5.	<b><u>Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Reports</u></b> Prime/Magellan Retrospective DUR Quarterly Activities 2Q2024 <i>(pp.15 – 29)</i>	Jessica Shost, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a Prime/Magellan Rx rDUR Activities Report for 2Q2024 for committee review via Consent Calendar portion of committee packet.</i></p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Prime/Magellan reviews of the Healthy Workers HMO population have found a small number of members with concerning prescribing based on the topics of interest. This is consistent with the relatively small and engaged population of Healthy Workers HMO members (in comparison to Medi-Cal). Continued monitoring for different areas of rDUR interest will identify any concerning prescribing behavior or possible topics that require further intervention.</p> <p><b>Materials:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statin letter</li> <li>Migraine Letter</li> <li>Asthma letter</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> <i>Dr. Wozniak inquired about the impact of these letters on adherence measures/provider prescribing habits. Dr. Shost affirmed that these letters do indeed have benefit results, noting movement particularly in statins outcomes for the HW HMO population.</i></p>	<p><i>(Dr. Truong arrived at 7:42am)</i></p> <p><b>VOTE:</b> <b><u>Collective vote on Consent Calendar items 5 and 6.</u></b></p> <p><i><u>Collective Consent Calendar Vote: Unanimous approval (7/7)</u></i></p>
6.	<b><u>Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Reports</u></b> Quarterly Prospective DUR Report 2Q2024 <i>(pp.22 - 29)</i>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a 2Q2024 DUR report on prospective edits for committee review via Consent Calendar portion of committee packet.</i></p> <p><b>Summary &amp; Recommendations</b> This report and analysis provide regular oversight for prospective DUR edits, including denial and report-only errors, and supports optimization of the formulary for safe and effective treatment while preventing waste and abuse.</p> <p><b>Reporting Recommendations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue quarterly review of the Prospective DUR Report, with presentation of notable findings and resulting recommendations for formulary changes to P&amp;T as needed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Drug-Specific Formulary Recommendations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Education Recommendations:</b></p>	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> The committee had no comments or questions.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Gastroenterology</b> Bile Salts Class Review (pp.31 – 41)</p>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for bile salt medications. Major recommendations included the following: <b>Last reviewed:</b> Jul 2021 <b>Formulary Update:</b> (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changes recommended</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> The committee had no comments or questions.</p>	(Dr. Pace arrived at 7:50am)
8.	<p><b>Hepatology</b> Rezdiffra™ (resmetirom) Monograph (pp.42 – 48)</p>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for a hepatology medication for NASH/MASH treatment. Major recommendations included the following: <b>Last reviewed:</b> n/a <b>Formulary Update:</b> (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain non-formulary status at this time given lack of recommendations in the current guidelines and lack of PA requests for use.</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage Non-Formulary Medications criteria for any requests</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> The committee had no comments or questions.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Nephrology</b> Potassium Binders Class Review (pp.49 – 54)</p>	Tammie Chau, PharmD	<p>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for potassium binding medications. Major recommendations included the following: <b>Last reviewed:</b> Jul 2021 <b>Formulary Update:</b> (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changes recommended</li> </ul>	

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			<p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None (no active criteria)</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>The committee had no comments or questions.</i></p>	
10.	<p><b>Neurology</b>  Agamree® (vamorolone) Monograph  (pp.56 – 62)</p>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for a neurology medication for the treatment of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.</i></p> <p><i>Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> n/a</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b>  (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain non-formulary status at this time due to lack of guideline recommendations, lack of PA requests, and high cost.</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage Non-Formulary Medications criteria for any requests</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>Dr. Vo presented that there was no utilization of vamorolone in the HW HMO population. Dr. O'Brien inquired whether there also no utilization in the Medi-Cal population, which Dr. Vo confirmed. Dr. Truong asked if vamorolone is administered orally or not and if there were any ongoing trials for its use for other indications. Dr. Vo affirmed that vamorolone is indeed an oral medication and no other indications are currently being studied.</i></p>	
11.	<p><b>Neurology</b>  Zilbrysq® (zilucoplan) Monograph  (pp.63 – 69)</p>	Jessica Shost, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for a neurology medication for the treatment of Myasthenia Gravis.</i></p> <p><i>Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> n/a</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b>  (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain non-formulary status at this time due to small potentially eligible population and REMS requirement.</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage Non-Formulary Medications criteria for any requests</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>Dr. Truong asked whether zilucoplan is a self-administered or a provider-administered medication. Dr. Shost confirmed that zilucoplan is a self-administered subcutaneous injection.</i></p>	

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12.	<p><b>Psychiatry</b> Antipsychotics Class Review (pp.70 –87)</p> <p>Antipsychotics DUR Analysis (pp.88 –90)</p>	Jessica Shost, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for antipsychotic medications.</i></p> <p><i>Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> Oct 2022</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b> (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider adding antipsychotic PADs (Provider Administered Drugs) to the Healthy Workers HMO formulary at request of behavioral health county clinics</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR:</b> <i>The plan presented an Antipsychotics DUR analysis assessing adherence for Medi-Cal and Healthy Worker HMO members on antipsychotic medications.</i></p> <p><b>Summary:</b> No antipsychotic drug class has a PDC above 63%, suggesting that members prescribed antipsychotics have difficulty with adherence. This is further enforced by the high rate of single-fill non-adherence for second-generation antipsychotics. As seen in other diagnoses and drug classes, Asian members had higher adherence while Black members had the lowest adherence.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share report results with SFDPH county behavioral health</li> <li>• Outreach to clinics serving SFHP’s Asian population to discuss their strategies for patient adherence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> <i>SFHP and P&amp;T Committee acknowledged the typo on the agenda. "Medications to Treat Dependence" is from the previous P&amp;T DUR analysis topic. The committee expressed curiosity about the antipsychotic utilization population, wondering how members are able work if they have psychosis. Dr. O’Brien replied that the county provides a list of patients for SFHP to insure and care for, regardless of disease state. Dr. Wozniak inquired regarding the rationale behind SFHP’s recommendation to add PADs to formulary. Dr. Shost explained pharmacists administer antipsychotic PADs on-site at the county clinic, where the clinicians are unable to submit medical claims for these services. For this reason, PharmDs at the county clinic have requested for SFHP to add these PADs to the pharmacy benefit. Dr. Wozniak also brought up the topic of off-label antipsychotic use, commonly prescribed for insomnia. Dr. Truong inquired whether a broader DUR report for psychotics could be completed to assess off-label-use. Dr. O’Brien proposed sending education materials to providers for these agents and their uses. Dr. Shost agreed to adding education material to the SFHP November Provider Newsletter and to explore opportunities to conduct a broader DUR report.</i></p>	

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13.	<b><u>Pulmonary</u></b> Asthma/COPD Class Review (pp.91 – 123)	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for oral and inhaled medications used for asthma and COPD treatment. Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> Jul 2023</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b>            (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes recommended</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Committee Discussion:</u></b>  <i>Dr. Pace asked for further information about step therapy requirements for Trelegy. Dr. Vo stated that the specific criteria to obtain Trelegy would be sent to the committee after the meeting.</i></p>	
14.	<b><u>Pulmonary</u></b> Pulmonary Biologics Class Review (pp.124 – 135)	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for biologic medications used for asthma treatment. Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> Jul 2022</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b>            (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes recommended</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Committee Discussion:</u></b>  <i>Dr. O'Brien asked whether SFHP has monitoring in place to make sure only reasonable requests submitted for these drugs. Dr. Shost verified that SFHP does employing provider monitoring for this purpose.</i></p>	<p><b><u>VOTE:</u></b> <u>Collective vote on Formulary, Prior Authorization Criteria, and Drug Utilization Reports for Select Drug Classes items 7-15:</u></p> <p><b><u>Gastroenterology:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Bile Salts Class Review</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Hepatology:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Rezdiffra™ (resmetirom) Monograph</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Nephrology:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Potassium Binders Class Review</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Neurology:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Agamree® (vamorolone) Monograph</b></li> <li>• <b>Zilbrysq® (zilucoplan) Monograph</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Psychiatry:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Antipsychotics Class Review</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pulmonary:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Asthma/COPD Class Review</b></li> <li>• <b>Pulmonary Biologics Class Review</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Rheumatology:</u></b></p>
15.	<b><u>Rheumatology</u></b> Gout Class Review (pp.136 – 146)	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented a class review and recommendations for gout medications. Major recommendations included the following:</i></p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> Jul 2021</p> <p><b>Formulary Update:</b>            (Healthy Workers HMO and Healthy San Francisco):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes recommended</li> </ul> <p><b>PA Criteria Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor corrections to the current criteria to ensure all formulary products are listed with corresponding strengths and quantity limits</li> </ul> <p><b>DUR Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Committee Discussion:</u></b>  <i>Dr. O'Brien asked for the rationale behind the non-formulary status of allopurinol 200mg while the 100mg and 300mg are T1. Dr. Ellsworth and Dr. Vo verified that cost is the driving factor.</i></p>	

	Topic	Brought By	Discussion	Action
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved recommendations as presented.</li> <li>• <b>Gout Class Review</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Collective Vote Formulary, Prior Authorization Criteria, and Drug Utilization Reports for Select Drug Classes:</u> <u>Unanimous approval (8/8)</u></p> <p>Antipsychotics DUR Analysis Non-voting item</p>
16.	<p><b>Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Reports:</b> Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) DUR Report: Multiple Providers and Multiple Pharmacies 2Q2024 (pp.147 – 151)</p>	Jessica Shost, PharmD	<p>The plan presented a Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) DUR analysis on Multiple Providers and Multiple Pharmacies for 1Q2024 for committee review via Consent Calendar portion of committee packet.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Members utilizing multiple pharmacies or multiple providers were likely to be on ten or more unique medications. The members with a high pharmacy utilization appeared to be at risk of avoidable waste. Members with high provider and pharmacy usage likely have multiple primary care as well as specialty providers. High multiple provider utilization may also present a risk for duplicative therapy, supported by evidence of high number of unique medications.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with CM to ensure that clients with multiple providers or multiple pharmacies receive a referral to ECM (<i>Enhanced Care Management</i>).</li> <li>• Continue to monitor with quarterly reports</li> </ul> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b> <i>Dr. O'Brien inquired as to why some members in this analysis are ECM eligible but not enrolled in the program. Dr. Shost agreed to connecting with SFHP's ECM for coordination.</i></p>	Non-voting item
17.	<b>Reconvene in Open Session</b>	Steve O'Brien, MD	Open session resumed: 9:03 am.	Non-voting item
18.	Annual Pharmacy Policies and Procedures (P&Ps) Review (pp.152 – 175)	Sue Chan	<p>The plan presented changes to Pharmacy Policies and Procedures (P&amp;P) for P&amp;T committee annual review and approval:</p> <p><b>Document Changes</b> <u>Pharm-02 Pharmacy Prior Authorization</u></p> <p><b>Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The policy is up for annual review.</li> <li>• Policy references updated from "QI" to "G&amp;A" and the Affected Departments section due to an organizational structural change.</li> <li>• Regulatory references section was updated due to a newer APL that supersedes the one referenced for SB-855 and the APL around Rx carveout no longer needed to be referenced.</li> <li>• Attachment A, Step Therapy Criteria was updated to the latest</li> </ul>	<p><b>VOTE:</b> <b><u>Review and Approval of Annual Pharmacy Policies and Procedures (P&amp;Ps)</u></b> Approved recommendations as presented.</p> <p><u>Vote: Unanimous approval (8/8)</u></p>

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			<p>edition.  <u>Pharm-03 Oversight of Delegated Pharmacy Provider Credentialing Process</u>  <b>Update:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The policy is up for annual review. No changes were necessary.</li> </ul>   <u>Pharm-14 Pharmacy Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Program</u>  <b>Update:</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The policy is up for annual review. No changes were necessary.</li> </ul>   <b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>Dr. O'Brien observed that the redlined updated were not captured in the P&amp;T packet. Redlined policies will be provided to the committee following the meeting.</i> </p>	
19.	Review and Approval of Prior Authorization Criteria Interim Changes <i>(pp.176 – 177)</i>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented Prior Authorization Criteria interim changes (New Criteria, Revised Existing Criteria &amp; a table of criteria that were evaluated per the Annual review process where no clinical changes were made) for review and approval.</i></p> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>The committee had no comments or questions.</i></p>	<p><b>VOTE:</b>  <b><u>Review and Approval of Prior Authorization Criteria Interim Changes</u></b>            Approve recommendations as presented.</p> <p><i>Vote: Unanimous approval (8/8)</i></p>
20.	Review and Approval of Interim Formulary Changes and Formulary Placement for New Drugs to Market <i>(pp.178 – 180)</i>	Katrina Vo, PharmD	<p><i>The plan presented interim formulary changes and formulary status for new drugs to market.</i></p> <p><b>Committee Discussion:</b>  <i>Dr. Truong inquired about SFHP vaccine coverage. Dr. Vo replied that vaccines are currently covered under the medical benefit with the exception of COVID, which is also available under the pharmacy benefit, allowing for patients to receive vaccinations at a pharmacy. Dr. O'Brien and the pharmacy team will explore possibly opening the pharmacy benefit to include vaccines for the HW HMO line of business to match Medi-Cal's access.</i></p>	<p><b>VOTE:</b>  <b><u>Review and Approval of Interim Formulary Changes and Formulary Placement for New Drugs to Market</u></b>            Approved recommendations as presented.</p> <p><i>Vote: Unanimous approval (8/8)</i></p>
21.	<b>Appendix</b> Prime Therapeutics and Pipeline Report 2Q2024 <i>(pp. 181 - 233)</i>	Ai Quynh Nguyen, PharmD	<p><i>The plan provided information published by Prime Therapeutics regarding new developments in the pharmacy market as of Q2 2024.</i></p>	<p><i>Non-voting item</i></p>



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22.	Adjournment	Steve O'Brien, MD	The meeting adjourned at 9:22 am.  2024/25 P&T Committee Meeting dates are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wednesday, January 15, 2025</li><li>• Wednesday, April 16, 2025</li><li>• Wednesday, July 16, 2025</li><li>• Wednesday, October 15, 2025</li></ul>	

Respectfully submitted by:

*Steve O'Brien*

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Steve O'Brien, MD  
Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Chair

1/16/2025

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Date