The meeting of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee of the North Carolina State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees (The Plan) was called to order at 6:30 P.M. (EST) on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, via webinar, accessible to the public through the Plan’s website. Quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Sundhar Ramalingam, MD, Oncologist, Duke Cancer Center
Peter Robie, MD, General Internist, Wake Forest Baptist Community Physicians
Joseph Shanahan, MD, Owner, Shanahan Rheumatology & Immunotherapy
David Konanc, MD, Neurologist, Raleigh Neurology Associates
Jennifer Burch, PharmD, Owner, Central Compounding Center

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Tony Gurley, RPh, JD, Owner/Pharmacy Manager, Glenwood South Pharmacy + Market
John J. Engemann, MD, Infectious Disease Specialist, Raleigh Infectious Disease Associates, PA
John Anderson, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer, Duke Primary Care
Matthew K. Flynn, MD, Founder, Family Dermatology

PLAN & VENDOR STAFF:
Kautook Vyas, PharmD, Senior Pharmacy Consultant, Chairperson
Caroline Smart, Sr. Director, Plan Integration, State Health Plan
Dee Jones, Executive Director, State Health Plan
Natasha Davis, Sr. Pharmacy Benefits Program Manager, State Health Plan
Renee Jarnigan, RPh, Clinical Advisor, CVS Health
Stephanie R. Morrison, PharmD, BCPS, Clinical Advisor, CVS Health

Welcome:
The Chairperson welcomed the Committee members and guests to the webinar and performed roll call.

Conflict of Interest
In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act the Chairperson read the NCSHP’s Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder to the P&T Committee members and requested that members who have either an actual or perceived conflict of interest identify the conflict and refrain from discussion and voting in those matters as appropriate. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Formulary Updates:
The Chairperson introduced CVS Caremark’s Clinical Advisors Heather Renee Jarnigan, RPh, & Stephanie Morrison, PharmD, BCPS whom would be presenting CVS Caremark’s Quarterly Formulary Updates, effective January 1, 2021. This included drug removals and additions to the formulary as well as tier changes and utilization management policies.
Ms. Jarnigan began by explaining that the Plan has a formulary exclusion exception process that is available to support Plan members who, per their provider, have a medical necessity to remain on an excluded drug. Ms. Jarnigan then reviewed the following products that will be excluded from the formulary starting on the effective date: SUPREP, PREMARIN TAB, CIPRODEX, VIIBRYD, AMITIZA, INTRAROSA, PROLENSA, ESTRING, HUMATROPE, TECFIDER, TAZORAC, INCRUSE ELLIPTA, NUVARING, TRULANCE, BEPREVE, FABIOR, BEVESPI, OSPHENA, GOLYTELY, APTENSIO XR, GEL-ONE, CALCIPOTRIENE/BETAMETHASONE, DAYTRANA, FEMRING, UDENYCA, INVEGA SUST, CIPRO HC, ZIRGAN, NEULASTA, MIRVASO, AZELEX, PAXIL, PAXIL CR, APOKYN, ADZENYS ER, LACRISERT, ISOSORB DIN TAB 40MG, MENEST, SOMAVENT, VISCO-3, TRACLEER, OXYMORPHONE TAB ER, BORTEZOMIB, KYPROLIS, PEXEVA, METAXALONE TAB 400MG, DARAPRIM, ARALAST, GLASSIA, SIGNIFOR LAR, DIFFERIN LOTION.

All products being removed have therapeutic alternatives or generic equivalents that are covered as preferred products on the Plan’s custom formulary.

Ms. Jarnigan identified all the branded products that will be moving to have a change in tier. They included: VARUBI, RISPERDAL INJ, ARISTADA, ALECENSA, ALUNBRIG, ERIVEDGE, PERJETA, NINLARO, VELCADE SDV, XCOPRI, NAYZILAM, VALTOCO, OCREVUS, ANNOVERA, IMVEXXY, CLENPIQ, ZIOPTAN.

Ms. Jarnigan along with Dr. Morrison identified all the medications that were being removed from CVS’s New-to-Market block and would be available as covered products effective January 1, 2021, along with utilization management policies that went along with the new products, formulary add backs, and new molecular entities. The medications being added to the formulary are as follows: DUROLANE, PHESGO, PERSERIS INJ, ZIEXTENZO, DOPELET, LAMIT (nifurtimox), ORIAHNN (elagolix, estradiol and norethindrone; elagolix), INBRIJA (levodopa inh), XOSPATA (gilteritinib), BALVERSA (erdafitinib), ROZLYTREK (entrectinib), ZEPOSIA (ozanimod), KESIMPTA (ofatumumab), NEXLETOL (bempedoic acid), NEXLIZET (bempedoic acid and ezetimibe), ARAZLO LOT 0.045%, BENLYSTA INJ 200MG/ML, BREZTRI AEROSPHERE, PACLITAXEL INJ 100/16.7, PARAPLATIN INJ 1000MG, TRULICITY INJ, EUFLEXXA, LAMICTAL, TOUJEO, NORDITROPIN, FLAREX.

There was no other opposition from the Committee members, so the other product additions were approved as presented.

The Committee was also presented with line extensions. The line extensions were approved without opposition.

Adjourn
Dr. Vyas addressed the Committee by thanking them for their service and informed them that the next meeting would be held on February 10, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. via webinar. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 P.M. (EST).

Kautook Vyas, Chair