

**Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Contra Costa Health Plan**  
**March 7, 2025**

**Attendees:**

|                          |                                               |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| X                        | *Irene Lo, MD CCHP Medical Director, Co-Chair |
| X                        | *David Gee, MD                                |
|                          | Sharron Mackey, Chief Executive Officer       |
| X                        | *Joseph Cardinalli, PharmD, Co-Chair (#)      |
| X                        | Rebecca Lau, PharmD                           |
|                          | *Vijay Bhandari, MD                           |
|                          | *Nusrat Chaudhry, MD                          |
|                          | *Parham Gharagozlou, MD                       |
| X                        | Iryna Makukh, PharmD, PerformRx               |
|                          | Stephanie Dauer, PharmD, PerformRx            |
|                          | *Oliver Graham, MD                            |
| X                        | *Nicolas Barcelo, MD                          |
|                          | *Ogo Mbanugo, MD                              |
| X                        | *Olga Kelly, MD                               |
|                          | Barrie Cheung, PharmD, PerformRx              |
| X                        | Patrick Dehoratius, PharmD, PerformRx         |
| X                        | *Marjan Orellana, PharmD CCRMC                |
|                          | Adeebah Fakurnejad, PharmD CCRMC              |
| X                        | Todd Laskowski, PerformRx                     |
|                          | Ruth Smith, RPh, PerformRx                    |
|                          | Erich Weiss, RPh, PerformRx                   |
| X                        | Liza Rosendale, PerformRx                     |
| *voting members, #scribe |                                               |

| Topic                                                                                                                                             | Discussion/Decision/Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Follow-up Action                 |
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| Call to Order                                                                                                                                     | Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee meeting was called to order at 12:33 pm on March 7, 2025 via virtual meeting (Teams) by Joe Cardinalli. Quorum is present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                  |
| Review/Approval of Previous Minutes                                                                                                               | Motion by Dr. Gee and second by Dr. Barcelo and voted to approve the minutes from the December 2024 P&T meeting. If you notice any omissions, deletions or small changes that need to occur you can always send us a message.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Approved                         |
| Consent agenda<br>(presented by Rebecca)                                                                                                          | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Remove criteria that is no longer relevant and use generic nonformulary criteria in place</li> <li>2) Modified criteria to edit out typos and overly restrictive/outdated criteria</li> <li>3) Preview potential criteria of recent FDA approved medications that could be presented in the future</li> </ol> <p>Motion to approve by Dr. Barcelo and seconded by Dr. Gee<br/>Approved via vote.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Approved                         |
| Policy and Procedure Review                                                                                                                       | <p>Joe presented updates to an existing policy PM 6.010 titled Pharmacy Services. Joe noted these updates were put in place to comply with newly passed regulations and to comply with a recent DMHC APL. This policy was reviewed by the committee members. There were no additional questions.</p> <p>Motion to approve by Dr. Barcelo and seconded by Dr. Gee<br/>Approved via vote.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Approved                         |
| New criteria <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vyalev (foscarbidopa and foslevodopa)</li> <li>2. Rheumatoid arthritis criteria</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Vyalev (foscarbidopa and foslevodopa):</b> Joe presented the monograph and proposed criteria for Vyalev. The criteria was discussed by the committee. Dr. Gee stated that this med would be helpful for members with up and down responses to oral carbidopa/levodopa. Motioned to approve by Dr Kelly and seconded by Dr Gee. Approved by committee as listed in packet.</li> <li>ii. <b>Rheumatoid Arthritis Criteria:</b> Becky presented the proposed criteria for Rheumatoid Arthritis as listed in P&amp;T packet. Joe stated that this criteria is being put in place so we have a specific RA criteria instead of just a general biologic medication criteria. The criteria was discussed by the committee. Motioned to approve by Dr Gee and seconded by Dr Barcelo. Approved by committee as listed in packet.</li> </ol> | Approved all as listed in packet |

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| <p>Updates to existing criteria:</p> <p>1. Medical Benefit Physician Administered Drug Approval Criteria</p> <p>2. Agents for Atopic Dermatitis</p> <p>3. Pulmonary Biologics for Asthma and Eosinophilic Conditions</p> | <p>i. <b>Medical Benefit Physician Administered Drug Criteria:</b> presented by Joe-presented as written in packet. Joe explained that this is now a separate criteria document to apply to all PADs rather than having the retail pharmacy criteria and PAD criteria in the same document. Committee agreed with criteria as written. Motioned to approve by Dr Gee and seconded by Dr Kelly. Approved by committee as presented in packet.</p> <p>ii. <b>Agents for Atopic Dermatitis:</b> presented by Becky-presented as written in packet. Dr. Gee asked for clarification of the mechanism of action for the interleukin inhibitors. Committee agreed with criteria as written. Motioned to approve by Dr Barcelo and seconded by Dr Gee. Approved by committee as presented in packet.</p> <p>iii. <b>Pulmonary Biologics for Asthma and Eosinophilic Conditions:</b> presented by Becky-presented as written in packet. Committee agreed with criteria as written. Motioned to approve by Dr Barcelo and seconded by Dr Gee. Approved by committee as presented in packet.</p> | <p>All Updates Approved by Committee</p>                                                           |
| <p>Formulary Updates/Drug Class Reviews:</p> <p>i. Second Generation Antihistamines</p>                                                                                                                                  | <p>i. <b>Second Generation Antihistamines</b> (presented by Joe)</p> <p>a. Presented information as written in packet. Joe stated there is are currently some inconsistencies in the coverage of medications in this class so the proposals are to create consistency for the OTC medication coverage for these agents. The committee agreed with the recommendations as listed in the packet. A motion to approve the criteria as listed in packet was made by Dr. Gee and seconded by Dr. Kelly. This was approved by the committee.</p> <p>All formulary update changes approved by committee</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Approved CCHP pharmacy unit to submit necessary changes to PBM and place auths as necessary</p> |
| <p>DUR Review and Health Plan Reports:</p> <p>i. Q4 2024 DUR observations and changes</p> <p>ii. Medi-Cal DURx-2024 Immunization Update: COVID-19, Influenza, RSV, Pneumococcal, Polio,</p>                              | <p>1. Rebecca presented the drug utilization review observations for Q4 2024 as highlighted in the packet. The change is to add teriparatide to the high dollar exception table to prevent rejections for the medication. A motion to approve this section was made by Dr. Barcelo and seconded by Dr. Gee. This was approved by the committee.</p> <p>2. Rebecca presented the article from Medi-Cal DURx regarding 2024 Immunization Update: COVID-19, Influenza, RSV, Pneumococcal, Polio, Meningococcal, HiB, HepB and Mpox. The committee reviewed the article as written in the packet.</p> <p>3. Joe presented the CCHP ongoing pharmacy department clinical project updates as listed in packet. It was noted that there are several new projects that have been recently put into place and the clinical projects are ongoing and proceeding as planned.</p> <p>4. CCHP Pharmacy Department data was presented by Joe as written in P&amp;T packet including PMPMs, PA data and turnaround time and medication cost and usage data. Joe pointed out</p>                       |                                                                                                    |

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| Meningococcal, HiB,<br>HepB and Mpox<br><br>iii. CCHP Clinical<br>Project Review<br><br>iv. Pharmacy<br>Department Data | that the PATAT report is now in NCQA format which gives a more complete picture. Dr. Gee asked if there is AI software available for PA processing. Dr. Lo stated that recent regulation has stated that human physicians or pharmacists will have to be involved with modifications or denials. Dr. Lo stated that CCHP will be examining the usefulness of this technology in the future. Dr. Gee also stated that it seems like biologics are becoming a higher percentage of CCHP's overall usage. Dr. Gee recommended that CCHP examine the documentation necessary to satisfy trial and failure requirements as a result of the increased cost of these medications.<br><br><br>Meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm by Joseph Cardinali |  |
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Unless otherwise indicated below, Contra Costa Health Plan hereby adopts all issues, findings, or resolutions discussed in the meeting minutes for Contra Costa Health Plan's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, dated March 7, 2025 and attached herein.

Excepted matters: none

**Approved by CCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee:**

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Committee Chair Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Co-Chair Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date