
AHCCCS Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Public Testimony Form

1 message

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Please check the box of the statement that best applies.:

I do not have a current or recent (within the last 24 months) financial arrangement or affiliation with any organization that may have a direct interest in the business before the AHCCCS P&T Committee.

Summary of Testimony:

There are a host of factors that keep many psychiatric patients from taking prescribed oral medication consistently or in some cases at all. Long-acting injectable antipsychotics enable many of these patients to get their medication reliably. However, only a small number of the oral antipsychotics are available as long-acting injectables. We have two older agents, Haldol decanoate and Prolixin decanoate, and basically two newer agents available in a small number of formulations, aripiprazole and the risperidone/paliperidone axis. Aripiprazole is available as Abilify Maintena and Aristada. Paliperidone is available as Invega Sustenna and its longer-acting Invega forms. Invega is the active metabolite of risperidone, which is still available as Risperdal Consta and newly available in the subcutaneous form, Perseris. (Long-acting injectable olanzapine, Zyprexa Relprevv, carries a risk of immediate side effects that require observation in the healthcare facility for three hours after each injection, so it has not become a first-line choice.) The newer atypical antipsychotics differ from the older agents in the range of benefits they offer and their potential side effects. Notably, the atypicals contribute to the management of bipolar disorder and major depressive disorder, as well as the psychotic disorders. In terms of side effect profiles, the newer agents carry the additional risk of metabolic side effects, such as weight gain and hyperlipidemia, but greatly reduce the risk of parkinsonian side effects and tardive dyskinesia. Because of the different therapeutic and side effect profiles, as well as the occasional need to use two LAIs together, we rely on having this small selection of medications available in order to find the best treatment option for each patient. Thanks to the committee, we have had full access to the long-acting injectable antipsychotics currently available. I ask the committee to continue to authorize that same level of access. Thank you.

Drug/Product: Abilify Maintena, Aristada, Invega Sustenna, Risperdal Consta
Therapeutic Drug Class: Long-acting injectable antipsychotics
Testimony Format: Written

