



Indian Health Service National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee



NPTC Updates March 2011

The IHS National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (NPTC) met in the Oklahoma City Area, March 1-2, 2011. This meeting had representation from 9 of our 12 IHS Areas. The meeting also included a PHS Officer representative from the DoD Pharmacoeconomic Center (PEC). The VA was unable to attend in person, but connected via teleconference and reviewed items that they are working on to keep us updated on VA formulary proceedings. The NPTC continues to appreciate the relationship with the VA and DoD-PEC and works closely with these agencies.

This meeting discussed various topics relevant to the IHS patient population and included: Antiplatelet agents clopidogrel and prasugrel, update on clopidogrel/proton pump inhibitor interactions, anti-arrhythmic agents amiodarone and dronedarone, nasal steroid class review, and agents used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

The resulting action from the meeting was as follows:

1. From the antiplatelet discussion, **clopidogrel will remain** on the NCF based on the available clinical and pharmacoeconomic data available. Additionally, a clinical monograph was developed and will be posted on the NPTC website.
2. A presentation on the recent clinical information related to the interaction between clopidogrel and proton pump inhibitors was provided. An update to the 2009 1-pager will be developed and placed on the NPTC website.
3. The clinical and pharmacoeconomic data for amiodarone and dronedarone was presented. It was felt that each product had significant limitations. While dronedarone may produce fewer side effects, it is less effective and has a rather limited target population. Amiodarone shows better efficacy, but carries significant side-effects. A clinical monograph was prepared and will be available on the NPTC website. Neither product was added to the NCF.
4. The committee reviewed the nasal steroid class and voted to **ADD an intranasal corticosteroid (any)**, to the IHS NCF based upon its clinical and pharmacoeconomic data. It was felt that there was no clinically superior product within this class in regards to safety and efficacy.
5. The clinical and pharmacoeconomic data for the treatment of BPH was discussed and the committee voted to **ADD tamsulosin and finasteride** to the NCF. A clinical 1-pager will be developed and posted to the NPTC website.

The next meeting will be July 12-13, 2011. The anticipated agenda will include area cost avoidance analysis, treatment of Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Constipation and COPD.

If you would like to recommend a topic for future NPTC discussion, please send an email at IHSNPTC1@ihs.gov. For more information about the NPTC, please visit the [NPTC website](#).