



**Indian Health Service
National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee**



NPTC Updates
September 2010

The IHS National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (NPTC) met at the Portland Area Office on September 21-22, 2010. This meeting had representation from 11 of our 12 IHS Areas. Additionally, Dr. Andrew Narva, who serves as Director of the National Kidney Disease Education Program and the IHS Chief Clinical Consultant for Nephrology, attended and served as subject matter expert for the Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) discussions. A member from the Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention (DDTP) attended via teleconference for the diabetes related discussions. The meeting also included a 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 will continue to look for opportunities to collaborate.

This meeting had a diabetes (DPP-4 inhibitors, insulin, neuropathy) and CKD (phosphate binders, vitamin D analogs, erythropoiesis stimulating agents) focus, but also included a discussion of the treatment of gout. The NPTC provided 5 new drug class reviews and 2 follow ups from previously reviewed classes.

The resulting action from the meeting was as follows:

1. As a follow up to the "Insulin Product Update" clinical and pharmacoeconomic discussion, the NPTC voted to **ADD** the following named products to the NCF to remain in compliance with the IHS-VA National contract established in March 2010:
 - a. * **Novolin R, Novolin NPH and Novolin 70/30**
 - b. * **Novolog and Novolog 70/30 mix**
 - c. **Levemir (insulin detemir)**

*Named products to remain in compliance with the VA/DoD/IHS National Standardization contract

2. Based on the clinical and pharmacoeconomic discussion from the treatment of diabetic neuropathy topic, the committee voted to **ADD gabapentin** to the NCF.
3. The committee reviewed medications used in the treatment of gout and voted to **ADD allopurinol** to the IHS NCF based upon its clinical and pharmacoeconomic data.
4. The clinical and pharmacoeconomic data for the use of non-calcium containing phosphate binders in CKD was discussed and the committee voted to **ADD Renvela (sevelamer carbonate)** to the NCF with criteria for use (for patients on dialysis who cannot use calcium based phosphate binders due to hypercalcemia).
5. The NPTC and the Chief Clinical Consultant for Nephrology will collaborate to prepare "1-pagers" for the erythropoiesis stimulating agents, vitamin D analogs and the phosphate binders for CKD.

The next meeting will be a teleconference in December with a date and time to be determined. The anticipated agenda will include area cost avoidance analysis, follow-up of hormone replacement therapy with use analysis and a follow-up of colchicine following the anticipated release of guidance documents from the American College of Rheumatology.

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](#).