



Indian Health Service National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee



NPTC Updates December 2011

The IHS National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (NPTC) held a teleconference meeting December 15, 2011. This meeting had representation from 9 of our 12 IHS Areas. The IHS Chief Clinical Consultant for OB-GYN served as subject matter expert at the meeting and provided valuable presentations and insight into the therapeutic management for our topics. The DoD-PEC forwarded future agenda topics that they are working on for our meeting. The NPTC continues to appreciate the relationships with other government agencies and the collaboration with the VA and DoD-PEC.

This meeting discussed follow-up of previously reviewed topics that are relevant to the IHS patient population. Topics included a follow-up of progestin containing intrauterine devices, injectable progesterone for preterm labor prevention and the product Nexplanon (etonogestrel implant).

The resulting action from the meeting was as follows:

1. From the progestin containing intrauterine device discussion, the NPTC **ADDED Mirena** (levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device) to the NCF **with criteria for use by a skilled and privileged provider.**
2. The NPTC discussed the transition from Implanon to Nexplanon over the coming months by the drug sponsor. Nexplanon has the advantage of being radiopaque and also has an improved insertion device. Based upon its place in therapy and to assure an appropriate variety of family planning options, the NPTC **ADDED Nexplanon** (etonogestrel implant) to the NCF **with criteria for use by a skilled and privileged provider.**
3. Consistent methods of procurement for compounded 17-P (17-alpha-hydroxyprogesterone caproate) between facilities. NPTC to discuss with NPC and NSSC to identify options to increase the opportunity for consistent procurement.

Additionally, the NPTC made several modifications to the website to encourage use of the NPTC educational items and to encourage regular feedback from the field.

1. A RSS link was added to the NPTC website [Subscribe](#). Subscribers will receive a short, automated email to their RSS folder in Outlook when new items have been added to the website.
2. A [formulary review request form](#) was added to the NPTC website to encourage field submission of potential topics for NPTC consideration.

The next meeting will be held after the National Combined Councils meeting in Tucson, AZ. The anticipated agenda will have a behavioral health focus and will include discussions on treatment of psychosis, treatment of depression, treatment of bipolar disorder and treatment of anxiety. Area cost avoidance analysis, area reports and leadership reports will also be discussed.

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](#).