

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
TPA FORMULARY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 19, 2019**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The TPA Formulary Committee, (Committee) meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2019, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Fred Goldberg, O.D.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Lisa Wallace-Davis, O.D.  
Steven Linas, O.D. .  
Jonathan Noble, O.D.  
Geoffrey Cooper, M.D.  
Pam Chavis, M.D.  
Cindy Warriner, Pharmacist

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:** Helen Clayton-Jeter, O.D.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst  
Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director  
Anthony C. Morales, Operations Manager  
Laura Paasch, Administrative Assistant  
Ashley Carter, Deputy for Prescription Monitoring Program, (PMP) Analytics

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mark Hickman, Commonwealth Strategy Group, (CSG)/Virginia Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons, (VSEPS)  
Cal Whitehead, CSG/VSEPS

**ORDERING OF AGENDA:** No changes or additions were made to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was presented.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Ms. Yeatts stated the 2019 General Assembly placed gabapentin in the list of Schedule V controlled substances. She stated the Code of Virginia does not prohibit TPA-certified optometrists from prescribing Schedule V controlled substances, but the regulations exclude Schedule V. The Board of Optometry requested that the TPA-Formulary Committee be convened to consider the addition of certain Schedule V controlled substances, specifically gabapentin and pre-gabalin.

Ms.. Carter presented information on the number of gabapentin prescriptions written by optometrists and ophthalmologists.

The Committee discussed issues related to managing pain in patients using gabapentin and other drugs.

Ms. Yeatts commented that the Committee should consider one of the following three action options:

- Leave the regulations as they are with Schedule V controlled substances excluded from the TPA-Formulary;
- Keep the Schedule V controlled substance exclusion with the exception of gabapentin; and
- Add Schedule V controlled substances into the TPA-Formulary.

Dr. Linas moved to keep the Schedule V controlled substance exclusion with the exception of gabapentin. The motion was seconded.

The committee discussed the issue further.

Dr. Cooper moved to amend the previous motion to include mandatory querying of the Prescription Monitoring Program prior to issuing a prescription for gabapentin and that the prescription should not exceed seven days. The motion was seconded.

A polled vote resulted in 2 aye and 5 nay votes. The motion failed.

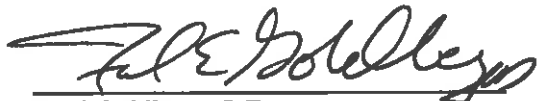
A polled vote for the original motion resulted in 5 aye and 2 nay votes. The motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was presented.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.



Fred Goldberg, O.D.,  
Committee Chair

Date

11-8-19



Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H.  
Executive Director

Date

November 8, 2019