



November 29, 2021

Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee. Silver States Scripts Board.
State of Nevada, Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
1100 E William Street, Suite 101
Carson City, NV. 89701. Fax 775-689-3893, Phone 775-684-3676

Re: June 24, 2021 SSSB meeting. Agenda Item 6d. Review of Atypical Antipsychotic Agents.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is John Anooshian and I am a psychiatrist in Las Vegas, Nevada. I serve as Medical Director of Mojave Counseling Center, a large community mental health center within the UNLV School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry; and of Westcare Community Triage Center, a large private and non-profit residential substance abuse/mental health treatment center.

I'm writing to ask that the review board please consider the addition of Caplyta (lumateperone) as a Preferred Status treatment option for those adult patients suffering from schizophrenia.

For transparency and disclosure, I wish to report that I am a paid speaker for Intra-Cellular Therapies, Inc, the makers of Caplyta. However, I write this note on my own behalf as a full-time practicing psychiatrist in the Las Vegas area for many years. In my own personal experience, I have found this medication to be very effective and helpful to many patients; often enabling stability in the community and avoiding costly re-hospitalizations or incarcerations.

Medication compliance is of utmost importance in order to avoid relapses. Major factors of compliance are the tolerability and efficacy of the medication. As you are aware, the responses to and adverse reactions of medications vary amongst patients. Thus, the ability to have open access to multiple FDA- approved medication options, each of which has distinctive mechanisms of action and distinct side effect profiles, is very helpful in achieving stability and improved outcomes in patients with these severe mental illnesses such as schizophrenia.

Caplyta has a favorable metabolic and movement disorder profile as well as a simplicity of dosing, all of which can help our patients adhere to their medication and remain stable.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Anooshian, MD
Diplomate American Board Psychiatry and Neurology