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09/10/2022

To: Silver State Scripts Board

RE: Improving Access for Lybalvi

I am a provider at Alliance Mental Health Specialist and would like to acknowledge a success story with one of my female patients. In 2020, the patient was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, current episode depressed, severe, with psychotic features, (F31.5). The patient's condition was stabilized and significantly improved with Olanzapine. After 16 months of taking Olanzapine, the patient had gained over fifty pounds. She became increasingly depressed about her weight and considered stopping the medication. The provider prescribed Lybalvi in April of 2022 and had follow-up visits with the patient in May and August of 2022. During the August visit, the patient reported significant improvement in mood, denied having any incidents of psychosis, and had lost 30 pounds since starting Lybalvi. The patient reported improvement in her self-confidence and that she was feeling much better physically since losing the weight.

Currently, the provider has several patients taking Olanzapine and a majority of those patients have experienced significant metabolic disturbances and weight gain due to this medication. Patient's weight gain is the most cited side effect that often leads to discontinuance and the subsequent return of symptoms. It is the provider's hope that access to Lybalvi will improve and that this medication will be approved by insurance companies when prescribed. This medication has the potential to successfully treat multiple mental health conditions while significantly reducing the serious metabolic side-affects associated with medications in the antipsychotic class.

Sincerely,



Michael Todd Mathisen, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC