

Email: Rxinfo@dncfp.nv.gov

Regarding: Open access for Rexulti

September 23, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as a local northern Nevada mental health professional who provides mental health care to our community. I currently work in a variety of setting in our community to ensure our mental health population has access to appropriate and timely psychiatric care. I currently work at three major medical center emergency rooms in norther Nevada (Northern Nevada Medical Center, Northern Nevada Sierra Medical Center & Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center). In each of these settings I daily encounter patients that have struggled with their mental health for extended periods of time. Currently, in the hospital setting there are barriers to using Rexulti as a first line treatment due to this medication not being on formulary or easily covered by insurance. Rexulti is one of the only atypical antipsychotics that is approved as an adjunct treatment for treatment resistant depression. Many patients who struggle with major mental health, such as bipolar or schizophrenia, often also struggle with depression. In my clinical experience, Rexulti stands out as more effective for such cases compared to other antipsychotics. Additionally with the new FDA approved use for agitation related to dementia and is only medication studied and approved for use in this very high-risk population. Access to this m dication will aid in fast stabilization in the hospitalized geriatric population while reducing exposure to adverse effects (sedation, unsteady gait, risk for falls) that are experienced by the use of other antipsychotics.

Approving open access to Rexulti will ensure that this medication is available to patients when they are in crisis and seeking help in the emergency room/inpatient treatment. As a mental health professional in our community, I strongly support the approval of Rexulti for open access - covered on formulary for state and private insurance for the reasons mentioned above.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Allison Fry, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC

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