From: Philip Malinas, M.D.

To: Pharmacy Services

Subject: Comments for Sept.23 Mtg.

**Date:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021 4:53:48 PM

This letter is in support of keeping all antipsychotic medications, whether oral or injectable, as "first line" on the formulary for Nevada Medicaid. They should not require failure of another agent before being available. In keeping patients with major mental illnesses well, we psychiatrists require a wide variety of agents to choose from. Response to them is very individual, and tolerability varies widely. A delay in getting the proper agent into a patient can result in job loss, hospitalization, incarceration or worse. My group cares for thousands of Medicaid patients and needs all the help we can get to improve their lives.

Sincerely,

Philip Malinas, M.D. Philip Malinas, M.D. & Associates