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Department of Workforce Services  
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
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Joan K. Evans  
Director  
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Deputy Director

Wyoming Workers' Compensation  
Medical Commission  
Provider Bulletin: 2012-0001  
Date: January 1, 2013

Subject: Ketamine Compound for the treatment of topical/oral pain therapy.

Medical Commission subcommittee members:

Dr. James Broomfield, MD, President  
Dr. Peter Perakos, MD  
Dr. Reed Shafer, MD  
Dr. Jeffrey Balison, MD  
Dr. Terrence Dini, D.C. C.S.C.S

Discussion: The use of Ketamine in multiple different formats was extensively reviewed for the treatment of neurologic pain, acute pain or chronic pain. The committee received information and correspondence from Pencol Compounding Pharmacy, including a 3 page document authored by Dr. U. Ghazi, dated October 16, 2012. Dr. Ghazi submitted documentation that he believed was supportive of the Division compensating providers for the compound, including the following:

1. *Reduction of allodynia in patients with complex regional pain syndrome: A double blind placebo controlled trial of topical ketamine.* Finch, author: Pain, November, 2009.
2. *Topically administered ketamine reduces capsaicin-evoked mechanical hyperalgesia.* Poylia, Clinic J Pain, January, 2006.

The panel also reviewed a letter and supportive documentation that was provided in correspondence dated August 16, 2012, from Aimee Lewis, Pharm.D., M.B.A., and several additional articles as follows:

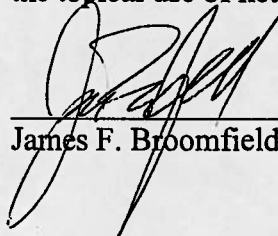
1. *Neuropathic pain—Current concepts*, from Family Practice, Volume 50, No. 3 (2008).
2. *Ketamine*, from Drugsdb.com, authored by C. Parker, April 17, 2012.
3. *Ketamine in Chronic Pain Management: An Evidence-Based Review*, authored by Hocking and Cousins, International Anesthesia Research Society (2003).
4. *Ketamine use: a review*, authored by Morgan and Curran, Society for the Study of Addiction (2011).
5. *Critical Review of Ketamine*, WHO (World Health Organization) Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (2003).



Significant concerns were identified including, but not limited to:

- a) This medication is not FDA approved for use in this format.
- b) Significant dependency issues
- c) Significant side effects were identified
- d) This medication is not effectively absorbed in topical use.
- e.) No double blind random studies were submitted by requestors indicating effectiveness or safety.
- f.) Alternative approved medications are available with proven effectiveness.
- g.) Non-cost effective

The Wyoming Workers' Compensation Medical Commission does NOT support the use of Ketamine in compound formulations, oral formulations, or topical use for the treatment of neurological pain therapy. The panel found that the evidence supporting the use of topical ketamine is limited. Two randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled studies show no benefit over placebo for ketamine alone or in combination with amitriptyline. The available evidence does **not support** the topical use of ketamine.

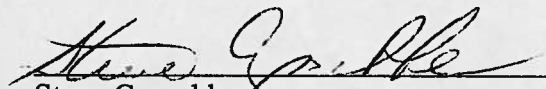


James F. Broomfield, M.D, President, Medical Commission

2-13-13

Date

Ketamine therapy-clinical decision is recommended to the Division Administrator on Feb 1, 2013.



Steve Czoschke  
Administrator Worker's Compensation

Date: 2-21-13

