



**PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS (P&T) COMMITTEE**  
**January 28, 2026**

The meeting of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee of the North Carolina State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees (the Plan) was called to order at 6:30 P.M. (EST) on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 via Teams, accessible to the public through the Plan's website. Quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jennifer Burch, PharmD, CDE, Owner, Central Compounding Center  
W. Russell Laundon, PharmD, Pharmacist, Director of Pharmacy Integration, UNC Health Care  
Timothy Ashley, MD, MPH Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, Duke Primary Care, Regional Director  
Garland Moeller, MD, Rheumatologist, CarolinaEast Internal Medicine  
Stephen Hsieh, MD, Internal Medicine, High Rock Internal Medicine

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ghassan Al-Sabbagh, MD, Gastroenterologist/Hepatologist, Gastroenterology & Hepatology Consultants  
David Konanc, MD, Neurologist, Raleigh Neurology Associates

**PLAN & VENDOR STAFF:**

Tom Friedman, Executive Director, State Health Plan  
Caroline Smart, Deputy Executive Administrator, State Health Plan  
Jenny Vogel, PharmD, Sr. Clinical Pharmacist, State Health Plan  
Joel Heimbach, Assistant General Counsel, State Health Plan  
Emma Turner, Director of Economics, Finance, & Analysis, State Health Plan  
Justin Wylie, Web Designer, State Health Plan  
Bryan Allard, Financial Analyst, State Health Plan  
Brian Miller, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.H., Board of Trustees Member  
Renée Jarnigan, RPh, Clinical Advisor, CVS Health

*Welcome*

The Chairperson welcomed the Committee members and guests to the webinar and performed roll call. New Committee member, Dr. Stephen Hsieh was introduced .

*Conflict of Interest Statement*

The Chairperson requested that the P&T Committee members review the agenda, which was distributed prior to the meeting, and to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest with any item on the agenda. No conflicts of interest were noted.

### *Old Business*

The Chairperson asked the P&T Committee members to review the October 22, 2025 P&T Committee Meeting minutes, which were distributed prior to the meeting. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes, so they were approved as is.

### *Formulary Updates*

Ms. Jarnigan presented CVS Caremark's Quarterly Formulary Updates, effective April 1, 2026. This included additions to the formulary, utilization management criteria, product exclusions, and tier movements.

Dr. Vogel and Ms. Jarnigan first identified two new molecular entities that were being removed from CVS's New-to-Market block and would be available as covered products. The new molecular entities being added to the formulary are as follows: BLUJEPA and ZEVTERA. Dr. Vogel presented Plan proposed custom utilization management to go along with BLUJEPA.

Ms. Jarnigan then presented proposed formulary additions. The formulary additions are as follows: *FULPHILA, JAKAFI, BRUKINSA TAB 160MG, EGRIFTA WR KIT 11.6MG, ELIQUIS CAP 0.15MG, ELIQUIS TAB 0.5MG, 1.5MG, 2MG, FIBRYGA INJ 2GM, KALETRA SOL, lomaira TAB 8MG, PAXLOVID PAK, and PREZCOBIX TAB 675/150,*

Ms. Jarnigan then explained that the Plan has a formulary exclusion exception process that is available to support Plan members who, per their provider, have a medically necessary reason to allow coverage of a formulary excluded drug.

Ms. Jarnigan then reviewed the following six products that will be excluded from the formulary starting on the effective date: *AUSTEDO XR, COPIKTRA\*, FYLNETRA, ONZETRA XSAIL, REVLIMID, , ZYDELIG\**. Prior use exemptions will be provided to members currently utilizing a medication indicated with \*. These members will not need to change medications or go through the exceptions process to continue their current medication. All products being removed have therapeutic alternatives or generic equivalents that are covered as preferred products on the Plan's custom formulary.

Ms. Jarnigan then identified three branded products *CIMERLI, OTREXUP, TEGSEDI*, which will have a change in tier from preferred to non-preferred.

Ms. Jarnigan presented a Brand-over-generic strategy reversal, in which one branded product was proposed for exclusion, with its generic being added into Tier 1. Ms. Jarnigan explained that this strategy supports the lowest net cost formulary principle and extends savings to members at point-of-service without requiring a new prescription. The one branded product to be removed is *MITIGARE oral capsules* with the generic *colchicine oral capsules* being added to the formulary in Tier 1.

Dr. Vogel then presented Plan initiated formulary changes which proposed to exclude four branded products: *VAGIFEM, NUVARING, ENTRESTO TABLETS, and WELLBUTRIN SR TB12*. Generic product proposed changes included: *yuvafem* added to the formulary in Tier 1, *etonogestrel ethinyl estradiol*

*vaginal ring* added to the formulary in Tier 0, and all strengths of *sacubitril/valsartan tablets* moved into the lower Tier 1.

#### *Formulary Evaluation Framework*

Dr. Vogel and Dr. Turner then presented the Plan's formulary evaluation framework, which promotes the inclusion of value added therapy. This framework is specific, defined, and consistently applies standards to how proposed formulary changes are evaluated. Key factors associated with this framework include member impact, clinical evaluation, operational viability, administrative review, utilization analysis, UM review, economic impact, strategic fit, and market analysis. The Plan provided examples to help illustrate the framework.

#### *Closed Session*

Committee members and Plan Staff then entered the closed session, during which plan staff provided Committee members with rebate and other financial information related to Stelara.

#### *Formulary Updates*

Upon return from the closed session, Committee members voted on the proposed formulary changes presented during the meeting.

There was no opposition from the Committee members, so the formulary changes were approved as presented.

#### *Adjourn*

The Chairperson addressed the Committee by thanking them for their service and informed them that the next meeting would be held on April 29, 2026 at 6:30 P.M. via Teams. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:53 P.M. (EST)

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Jenny Vogel, Chair