

**BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION**

**California Technology Assessment Forum**

**March 5, 2008**

**Summary of Panel Actions**

1. Voted to approve the minutes from October 17, 2007
2. Welcome Guests - Ezra Davidson, M.D.
3. Welcome from the Blue Shield of California Foundation and recognition of UCSF Consultants for their publication in JGIM – Deborah Schwab, R.N., ANP
4. Notification that no conflicts of interest have been identified among voting panel members. – Ezra Davidson, M.D.
5. Technology Assessment Criteria reviewed by Jeffrey A. Tice, M.D.
6. Fourteen members of the CTAF panel were in attendance. This provided a quorum. The CTAF panel took the following actions:

A. Genetic Testing to Guide Initiation of Anticoagulation with Warfarin

The following recommendation was put before the CTAF panel for consideration:

- It is recommended that the use of genetic testing to guide initial Warfarin dosing does not meet CTAF Technology Assessment Criteria 3 through 5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes.

Following Panel discussion and expert testimony, a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader to approve the recommendation as presented.

The CTAF Panel voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation.

B. Hand-carried Ultrasound for Cardiac Evaluation

The following recommendation was put before the CTAF panel for consideration:

- It is recommended that the use of HCU for cardiac evaluation does not meet CTAF Technology Assessment Criteria 2 through 5 for safety, efficacy and improvement in health outcomes.

Following Panel discussion and expert testimony, a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader to defer (table) a vote on the recommendation as presented until a later date.

The CTAF Panel voted eight in favor and six opposed to this recommendation.

C. Human Papilloma Virus Testing in Primary Screening for Cervical Cancer

The following recommendation was put before the CTAF panel for consideration:

It is recommended that the use of Human Papillomavirus Testing in Cervical Cancer Screening does not meet Technology Assessment Criteria 3 or 4 for improving health outcomes and being as effective as any established alternative.

Following Panel discussion and expert testimony, a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader to approve the recommendation as presented.

The CTAF panel voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation.

D. Robot-assisted Surgery for Radical Prostatectomy

The CTAF panel voted unanimously in favor of tabling this discussion until the June 18, 2008 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 P.M. The next meeting of the California Technology Assessment Forum will be held on June 18, 2008 at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Los Angeles, CA.