

BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION

California Technology Assessment Forum

October 28, 2009

Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco

Summary of Panel Actions

1. Call to Order and Welcome to Guests - Ezra Davidson, M.D.
2. Voted to approve the minutes from June 17, 2009 CTAF meeting
3. Technology Assessment Criteria review – Jeffrey Tice, M.D
4. Thirteen members of the CTAF panel were in attendance. This provided a quorum. The CTAF panel took the following actions:
 - A. Laparoscopic Adjustable Silicone Gastric Banding for Obesity

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

- It is recommended that the use of LAGB for the treatment of obesity does not meet CTAF technology assessment criteria 4 and 5 for improvement in health outcomes.

Following Panel discussion and expert testimony, a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader to consider an alternate recommendation:

- It is recommended that the use of LAGB for the treatment of obesity meets CTAF technology assessment criteria 1-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes. The motion was seconded.

The panel voted eleven for and two against the recommendation. The motion carried.

- B. Artificial Disc Replacement for Degenerative Disc Disease of the Cervical Spine

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

- It is recommended that cervical disc replacement as an alternative to spinal fusion does not meet CTAF criteria 3-5 for improvement in health outcomes.

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

The CTAF panel voted eight in favor and three opposed to this recommendation with one recusal and one abstention.

The motion carried.

C. Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy (ESWT) for Plantar Fasciitis not Responding to Conservative Therapy

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

- It is recommended that the use of ESWT for the treatment of PF does not meet technology assessment criteria 3, 4, or 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 accept the recommendation as presented in the assessment.

The CTAF panel voted twelve in favor of the recommendation with one opposed.

The motion carried.

D. Transurethral Microwave Thermotherapy for the Treatment of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia

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

- It is recommended that transurethral microwave thermotherapy *meets* CTAF criteria 1-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes for the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia in men with moderately severe obstructive symptoms and prostate volume of 30-100mL, with no history of prostate procedures, and without prostate cancer.

Following Panel discussion a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader to approve the recommendation as presented in the assessment. The motion was seconded.

The panel voted unanimously for the recommendation. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 P.M. The next meeting of the California Technology Assessment Forum will be held on February 17, 2010 at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco, CA.