

BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION

California Technology Assessment Forum

March 11, 2009

Hilton Hotel, 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 October 15, 2008 CTAF meeting
3. Welcome from the Blue Shield of California Foundation – Deborah Schwab, MS, ANP
4. Technology Assessment Criteria review - Jeffrey A. Tice, M.D.
5. Thirteen members of the CTAF panel were in attendance. This provided a quorum. The CTAF panel took the following actions:

A. Portable Devices Used in Home Testing for Obstructive Sleep Apnea

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

It is recommended that the use of two portable home devices (Remmers Sleep Recorder, WatchPat) to diagnose OSA meets technology assessment criteria 1 through 5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes in patients at very high risk for OSA and unlikely to have another cause for their sleepiness.

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

The CTAF panel voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation.

B. Computed Tomography Colonography (Virtual Colonoscopy) for Colorectal Cancer Screening in Average Risk Individuals

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

It is recommended that CTC does not meet CTAF TA criteria 3, 4 or 5 as a screening test for CRC in average risk individuals.

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

The CTAF panel voted eleven in favor of this recommendation with two opposed.

C. Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus on Insulin

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

It is recommended that: continuous glucose monitoring devices meet CTAF criteria 1-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes for the management of diabetes mellitus in non-pregnant adults requiring multiple (≥ 3) daily insulin injections and frequent (≥ 3) self-monitoring blood glucose checks.

It is further recommended that continuous glucose monitoring devices do not meet CTAF criteria 3-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes for the management of diabetes mellitus in children, adolescents and pregnant women.

Following Panel discussion and expert testimony, a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion Leader for an alternative recommendation to include Type 1 as a diabetes mellitus qualifier:

It is recommended that: continuous glucose monitoring devices meet CTAF criteria 1-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes for the management of Type 1 diabetes mellitus in non-pregnant adults requiring multiple (≥ 3) daily insulin injections and frequent (≥ 3) self-monitoring blood glucose checks.

The CTAF panel voted unanimously to accept this recommendation. On the second part of the recommendation:

It is further recommended that continuous glucose monitoring devices do not meet CTAF criteria 3-5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes for the management of Type 1 diabetes mellitus in children, adolescents and pregnant women.

The CTAF panel voted eight in favor of this recommendation with five opposed.

D. Hypofractionated Whole Breast Radiation Therapy following Breast-conserving Surgery

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

It is recommended that the use of hypofractionation meets Technology Assessment Criteria 1 through 5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes when used as adjuvant radiation therapy following breast surgery for localized breast cancer.

Following Panel discussion a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion leader to approve the recommendation as presented with the addition of "fully informed". This motion was seconded.

There fore the panel voted on the following:

It is recommended that the use of hypofractionation meets Technology Assessment Criteria 1 through 5 for safety, effectiveness and improvement in health outcomes when used as adjuvant radiation therapy following breast surgery for localized breast cancer in the fully informed patient.

The CTAF panel voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation.

E. Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillator for Patients at Risk of Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

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

It is recommended that the use of a wearable cardioverter defibrillator (WCD) for patients at risk for sudden cardiac arrest and who are not candidates for or refuse an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) does not meet CTAF TA criteria 2-5 for efficacy and improvement in health outcomes.

Following Panel discussion a motion was made by the CTAF Panel Discussion leader to approve the recommendation as presented. This motion was seconded.

The CTAF panel voted unanimously to accept the recommendation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M. The next meeting of the California Technology Assessment Forum will be held on June 17, 2009 in Los Angeles, CA.