

**South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS)
Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee
May 6, 2026, Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present

Kelly Barth, DO
Divya Ahuja, MD
Jony Bolinger, MD
Patricia Witherspoon, MD
Cheryl Hartvigsen, RPh
Philip Mubarak, MD
Kimberly Rudd, MD
Duncan Norton, MD
Garrett Whittle, PharmD
Michelle Jackson, PharmD
Robert J. Collins, MD MPH
Ed Behling, MD

SCDHHS Team Members Present

Kimberly Bristow, RPh
Brandie Crider, BSBA, CPhT
Ivory Bertling, Pharm D
Ashley Burton, DNP, FNP-BC
Kevin Wessinger, MD
Tawanna Zeigler, MHSA, CPhT

Prime Therapeutics Staff Present

Lori Ash
Alexis Jones, MHA, MA, CPhT
Blake Cook, RPh
Manisa Bulsara, PharmD
Lisa Correll, PharmD

Welcome and Call to Order

Ed Behling, MD, called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Freedom of Information Act/Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Pledge – This body's official minutes will indicate that this meeting is in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act's mandate



that the public be notified when the public's business is being done, and that furthermore, the public has been notified that this facility is accessible to individuals with disabilities, and special accommodations could have been provided if requested in advance.

Roll Call

Kimberly Bristow, RPh, welcomed the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee and encouraged them to attend future meetings in-person.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The draft minutes from the previous P&T Committee meeting Feb. 4, 2025, were emailed to the members for review prior to the meeting. Patricia Witherspoon, MD, motioned to approve the previous P&T meeting minutes and Divya Ahuja, MD, seconded the motion for approval. The minutes were approved unanimously.

State Updates

Kevin Wessinger, MD, notified committee that all providers that order, refer or prescribe services or items for SC Medicaid members must be enrolled in our Medicaid program even if they are not billing Medicaid directly. Providers may enroll through the SCDHHS' website. Providers should select the "Ordering/Referring" provider type when enrolling. Providers who are only enrolled as an Ordering/Referring provider only need to enroll with SCDHHS and not with the state's managed care organizations. Physicians who are already enrolled in Healthy Connections Medicaid are not required to enroll separately as ORP-only providers.

Kimberly Bristow, RPh, introduced Ivory Bertling, Pharm D to committee members as the Assistant Director of Pharmacy Services. Her work experience includes compounding at an independent pharmacy and long-term care consulting.

Pharma Updates

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, informed the committee the state plans to continue utilizing the randomization process for meeting requests in 2026. Those who do not receive a meeting invitation by the end of February 2026 will be randomized for the first set of meetings in 2027. There will be one 40-minute meeting per entity per year. Any questions or concerns can be directed to scpharma@primetherapeutics.com.

New Drugs to Market

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, announced the newest drugs to the market. They are listed below.

- Yuviwel™ (navepegritide)
- Loargys™ (pegzilarginase-nbIn)
- Zycubo® (copper histidinate)
- Yartemlea™ (narsoplimab-wuug)
- Myqorzo™ (aficamten)

Drug Classes for Review

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, stated there is one drug class for review.

Immunomodulators, Allergic Fungal Rhinosinusitis

There was a recommendation to add Dupixent® (dupilumab) pen/syringe as preferred.

Divya Ahuja, MD motioned for this to be approved, and Patricia Witherspoon, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Drug Classes for Re-Review

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, stated there will be a re-review of several drug classes.

Immunomodulators, Injectable and Oral Cytokine and CAM Antagonists

There were two speakers Uche Ndefo, Pharm.D., BCPS presenting on Bimzelx® from UCB Inc. and Matt Nguyen, Pharm.D. presenting on Skyrizi® from Abbvie.

There was a recommendation to add adalimumab-adaz injection (unbranded Hyrimoz®), Hadlima™ Injection, Xeljanz® Tablet/XR Tablet, Starjemza™ Injection, Otezla® Tablet/Starter Pack to preferred.

The following products were recommended to be added as non-preferred: Humira® / Humira® CF Injection (Effective 8/1/2026).

Divya Ahuja, MD, motioned to approve. Duncan Norton, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Hepatitis C

There was a recommendation to add Eplclusa® Pellet Pack/Tablet, sofosbuvir-velpatasvir (generic for Eplclusa®) and Vosevi® Tablet to non- preferred.

Garrett Whittle, PharmD, motioned to approve. Divya Ahuja, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

There was a recommendation to add buprenorphine-naloxone SL film (generic for Suboxone®) to preferred.

There was a recommendation to add Suboxone® SL Film to non- preferred.

Kelly Barth, DO, motioned to approve. Duncan Norton, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

HIV Antivirals, Oral/Self-Administered

There was a recommendation to add Viracept® Tablet to non-preferred.

Divya Ahuja, MD, motioned to approve. Duncan Norton, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

GLP-1/GIP Agonists, Injectable

There were two speakers Jeff Goforth, Pharm.D. presenting on Ozempic® from Novo Nordisk and Elizabeth Lubelczyk, Pharm.D, presenting on Mounjaro® from Eli Lilly.

There was a recommendation to add Victoza® Injection to non-preferred.

Patricia Witherspoon, MD, motioned to approve. Divya Ahuja, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

COPD and Asthma agents, Inhaled and Oral

There was a recommendation to add roflumilast tablet (generic for Daliresp®) and Spiriva® Respimat® Inhalation Spray to preferred.

Garrett Whittle, PharmD, motioned to approve. Duncan Norton, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Proton Pump Inhibitors

There was a recommendation to add esomeprazole magnesium Rx capsule, lansoprazole capsule Rx (generic for Prevacid®) and rabeprazole tablet (generic for Aciphex®) to preferred.

Divya Ahuja, MD, motioned to approve. Garrett Whittle, PharmD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Sedative/Hypnotics, Non-Barbiturates

There was a recommendation to add eszopiclone tablet (generic for Lunesta®), ramelteon tablet (generic for Rozerem®), zaleplon capsule (generic for Sonata®), and zolpidem ER tablet (generic for Ambien® CR) to preferred.

Garrett Whittle, PharmD, motioned to approve. Duncan Norton, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Calcium Channel Blocker (CCB)/ Angiotensin Receptor Blocker (ARB) Combination Products

There was a recommendation to add amlodipine-olmesartan tablet (generic for Azor®) and olmesartan-amlodipine-HCTZ tablet (generic for Tribenzor®) to preferred.

Duncan Norton, MD, motioned to approve. Divya Ahuja, MD, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Antifungal Agents, Oral

There was a recommendation to add clotrimazole troche (generic for Mycelex® troche) and griseofulvin microsize tablet (generic for Grifulvin V®) to preferred.

There was a recommendation to add flucytosine capsule (generic for Ancobon®), posaconazole tablet/suspension (generic for Noxafil®), Tolsura® capsule, and Vivjoa® capsule to non-preferred.

Robert J. Collins, MD MPH, suggested for posaconazole tablet/suspension (generic for Noxafil®) to be preferred. Collins also stated that he will provide more information regarding this category.

Duncan Norton, MD, motioned to table this category until August meeting. Robert J. Collins, MD MPH, seconded the motion. This change was approved unanimously.

Brand to Generic Switch

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, provided a brand/generic update.

Rufinamide tablet (generic for Banzel® tablets) will be preferred. Brand Banzel® tablets will move to non-preferred.

Carbamazepine ER tablets (generic for Tegretol XR® tablets) will be preferred. Brand Tegretol XR® tablet will move to non-preferred.

Oxcarbazepine suspension (generic for Trileptal® suspension) will be preferred. Brand Trileptal® suspension will move to non-preferred.

Lisdexamfetamine chewable tablets (generic for Vyvanse® chewable tablets) will be preferred. Brand Vyvanse® chewable tablets will move to non-preferred.

Housekeeping

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, provided some general updates and reminders.

The pharma email address is scpharma@primetherapeutics.com.

The effective dates for Cytokine/CAM changes will be June 1st, 2026. The Brand to Generic switch, Humira moving to non-preferred, Immunomodulators, Allergic Fungal Rhinosinusitis, Hepatitis C, and Medication Assisted Treatment will be effective August 1, 2026. All other changes will be effective October 1, 2026.

Manisa Bulsara, PharmD, also provided the committee with an update on Linezolid. Linezolid was presented at Feb P&T to be added with PA criteria. The state has re-evaluated and had decided to not implement PA for linezolid to not delay treatment. Will be monitoring utilization. Will present at the next meeting with a full quarters data.

Ed Behling, MD, asked for a motion to adjourn. Divya Ahuja, MD, motioned. Patricia Witherspoon, MD, seconded the motion.

Closing

The meeting was closed by thanking attendees for their participation and encouraging them to attend the meeting in-person. The next P&T meeting is August 5, 2026, at 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.