Wyoming Workers’ Compensation  
Medical Commission  
Provider Bulletin: 2012-0001  
Date: January 1, 2013

Subject: Ketamine Compound for the treatment of topical/oral pain therapy.

Discussion: The use of Ketamine in multiple different formats was extensively reviewed for the treatment of neurologic pain, acute pain or chronic pain. The committee received information and correspondence from Pencol Compounding Pharmacy, including a 3 page document authored by Dr. U. Ghazi, dated October 16, 2012. Dr. Ghazi submitted documentation that he believed was supportive of the Division compensating providers for the compound, including the following:


The panel also reviewed a letter and supportive documentation that was provided in correspondence dated August 16, 2012, from Aimee Lewis, Pharm.D., M.B.A., and several additional articles as follows:

Significant concerns were identified including, but not limited to:

a) This medication is not FDA approved for use in this format.
b) Significant dependency issues
c) Significant side effects were identified
d) This medication is not effectively absorbed in topical use.
e) No double blind random studies were submitted by requestors indicating effectiveness or safety.
f) Alternative approved medications are available with proven effectiveness.
g) Non-cost effective

The Wyoming Workers’ Compensation Medical Commission does NOT support the use of Ketamine in compound formulations, oral formulations, or topical use for the treatment of neurological pain therapy. The panel found that the evidence supporting the use of topical ketamine is limited. Two randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled studies show no benefit over placebo for ketamine alone or in combination with amitriptyline. The available evidence does not support the topical use of ketamine.

James F. Bloomfield, M.D, President, Medical Commission

Date: 2-13-13

Ketamine therapy—clinical decision is recommended to the Division Administrator on Feb 1, 2013.

Date: 2-21-13

Steve Czoschke
Administrator Worker’s Compensation