



October 30, 2017

ATTN: USP Healthcare Quality Expert Committee

RE: USP Drug Classification - 2018

The undersigned organizations of the Obesity Care Advocacy Network (OCAN) applaud the Healthcare Quality Expert Committee for including a new class for anti-obesity agents and addressing OCAN's concerns raised in its December 5, 2016 comment letter regarding the proposed USP Drug Classification system (USP-DC). The mission of OCAN is to partner with other medical societies and organizations to change how the nation perceives and approaches the U.S. obesity epidemic by educating and advocating for public policies and increased funding for obesity education, research, treatment and care.

OCAN truly appreciates the USP for establishing a new class for anti-obesity agents and including all FDA-approved drugs under the list of "Example Drugs" – both in the single entity list *and* combination list of the latest version of the proposed USP-DC. This approach will ensure that unique treatment approaches as well as drug combination therapies such as CONTRAVE® and Qsymia® will be encompassed under this new drug classification system.

Again, we applaud the USP for listening to the concerns of the obesity community, and OCAN is hopeful that the new USP-DC will be an important first step toward expanding patient access to, and coverage of, the growing list of FDA-approved medications for treating obesity -- often indicated as agents for chronic weight management.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact OCAN Washington Coordinator Chris Gallagher at chris@potomaccurrents.com or via telephone at 571-235-6475. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Academy of PAs
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
American Gastroenterological Association
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
Healthcare Leadership Council
Novo Nordisk, Inc.
Obesity Action Coalition
Obesity Medicine Association
The Obesity Society