Committee: New York City Society of Health-system Pharmacists

**Topic: Access to Oral Contraceptives through an Intermediate Category of Drug Products**

Sponsored: Karen Berger, Pharm.D., BCPS; Amisha Leimbach, Pharm.D., CJCP

Whereas, as stated in the Affordability Is Access Act, proposed to Congress, “access to the full range of health benefits and preventive services, including access to birth control, as guaranteed under Federal Law, provides all people of the United States with the opportunity to lead healthier and more productive lives.”

Whereas, timely access has long been a barrier for women’s utilization of oral contraceptives.

Whereas, leading women’s health experts, providers, and medication associations, including the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the American Academy of Family Physicians, support increased access to oral birth control over-the-counter.

Whereas, oral contraceptives be provided only under conditions that ensure safe use, including the availability of counseling to ensure appropriate self-screening and product selection.

*Resolved that:*

The New York State Council of Health System Pharmacists supports expanded access to these products through a proposed intermediate category of drug products that would be available from all pharmacists and licensed health care professionals (including pharmacists) who are authorized to prescribe medications. The council also supports that the proposed reclassification of these products shall be accompanied by coverage changes by third-party payers to ensure that patient access is not compromised and that pharmacists are reimbursed for the clinical services provided.

Date: February 5, 2016

By: Karen Berger, Pharm.D., BCPS Amisha Leimbach, Pharm.D., CJCP

Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 1 Signature of NYSCHP Active Member 2