Drug Use Research & Management Program
Oregon State University, 500 Summer Street NE, E35, Salem, Oregon 97301-1079
Phone 503-947-5220 | **Fax** 503-947-1119

Month/Year of Review: September 2014 **Date of Last Review:** September 2013
PDL Classes: Alzheimer's Drugs **Source Document:** OSU College of Pharmacy

Current Status of PDL Class:
- Preferred Agents: DONEPEZIL TABLET (10mg only), GALANTAMINE TABLET, GALANTAMINE ER CAPSULE, MEMANTINE (NAMENDA®), RIVASTIGMINE (EXELON PATCH®),
- Non-Preferred Agents: RIVASTIGMINE CAPSULES, DONEPEZIL ODT (ARICEPT ODT®), DONEPEZIL TABLET (OTHER THAN 10 MG), MEMANTINE XR (NAMENDA XR®)

Previous Conclusions and Recommendation:
- There remains insufficient evidence for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease (AD) beyond 6 months and on important clinical outcomes such as mortality and institutionalization.
- There is moderate quality evidence that cholinesterase inhibitors can alleviate AD symptoms and there is no strong evidence that one agent is more efficacious or safer than others.
- There is low quality and conflicting evidence that the combination of memantine with cholinesterase inhibitors may provide a small improvement in cognition and behavior, however the magnitude of effect is low and the clinical significance is unknown. There is no evidence of an improvement in function with the combination compared to monotherapy.
- Make Aricept 23mg non-preferred due to increased adverse drug events.

PA Criteria: None

Methods:
The DERP Scan was used to identify any new comparative research that has emerged since the last P&T review.[1]

Conclusions and Recommendations:
- No further review or research needed.
- Evaluate comparative costs in executive session; Designate Namenda XR as preferred.

References:
1. Peterson, Kim. Drug Effectiveness Review Project: Drug Class Review on Alzheimer's Drugs. Preliminary Scan Report #5, August 2014.