

NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE
FOUNDATION

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Press Release

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NPDF WITHDRAWS ITS ENDORSEMENT OF
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
(GEHA) FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AND ANNUITANTS

MORGANVILLE, NJ, AUGUST 17, 2015: The National Police Defense Foundation (NPDF) is announcing the removal of its twenty year endorsement of the Government Employee's Hospital Association (GEHA) and CVS Caremark, effective immediately.

GEHA is one of the approved U. S. Office of Personnel Management health plans offered to federal employees and annuitants nationwide

A NPDF investigation disclosed that there have been documented complaints filed with GEHA involving alleged claim processing errors, appeal denials, a website that reportedly fails to identify active in-network providers and the “arbitrary and capricious” denials of certain high-cost medications.

GEHA began using CVS Caremark on January 1, 2015 and mandated CVS to deny the approval of “Orthovisc” injections which is a proven drug that treats osteoarthritis. Prior to CVS, GEHA reportedly approved Orthovisc for its members.

Osteoarthritis effects many senior citizens and often times Orthovisc which requires a series of three injections avoids the need to undergo surgery for a knee replacement.

Instead, both GEHA and CVS reportedly ignore the recommendations of the prescribing physician and demands the patient to first use three alternate, less expensive, drugs that require the patient to undergo (11) eleven injections before they will give the approval for Orthovisc.

The NPDF has expressed its concerns to the CEO's of GEHA and CVS Caremark that the cost factor of Orthovisc should not be the principle factor in denying approval for Orthovisc. Therefore, the National Police Defense Foundation has saw fit to withdraw its endorsement of both GEHA and CVS Caremark.

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