FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



March 25, 2020 Contact: Drew Hardman Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP 1001 Oakdale Road Oakdale, PA 15071 <u>hardmanan@upmc.edu</u> 412-733-1950 www.chartwellpa.com

Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP First to Administer TEPEZZATM Home Infusion Therapy

Home infusion minimizes risk of infection for at-risk population during COVID-19 pandemic.

Pittsburgh, PA, March 25, 2020—Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP, one of the largest and most clinically advanced providers of home infusion, specialty pharmacy, and enteral nutrition in the nation, recently became the first provider to administer TEPEZZA (teprotumumab-trbw) in a home-infusion setting. Approved on January 21, TEPEZZA is the first and only FDA-approved medicine for the treatment of thyroid eye disease (TED), a rare and serious autoimmune disease. Home infusion therapy continues to ease the tremendous burden of care placed on hospitals and other health care facilities throughout the COVID-19 outbreak.

A member of Chartwell's expert field nursing staff administered the first TEPEZZA home infusion therapy on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at the patient's residence. The medication is administered once every three weeks for a total of eight infusions. Future patients will be screened on a case-by-case basis to determine their eligibility to receive the first dose in either a controlled setting, i.e. a hospital or outpatient infusion center, or in the comfort of their own home.

"This is a momentous step forward in the treatment of a potentially debilitating thyroid eye disease and marks an incredible milestone in the future of Chartwell patient care," said Chartwell COO David Benedict, PharmD, BCPS. "In the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, access to home infusion therapy is more important than ever. Many home infusion patients are considered at higher risk of severe reaction to COVID-19 due to age, chronic illness, and/or an immunocompromised condition, and treatment at home effectively minimizes the chance of infection. As always, patient safety and satisfaction remains our number one concern, and Chartwell will monitor each patient post-infusion to confirm toleration and ensure a positive therapy outcome."

TEPEZZA has a novel mechanism designed to block the insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor (IGF-1R), which is the key mediator of TED. As part of the limited TEPEZZA distribution network, Chartwell distributes the drug from its state-of-the-art specialty pharmacy facility in Oakdale, Pa.

The approximate 90-minute infusion process was a complete success. The patient is hopeful that continued treatments will help to alleviate TED symptoms, including double vision and eye sensitivity.

"It's incredibly reassuring to be able to receive my therapy at home where I'm the most comfortable," the patient said. "This is also a time when hospital and clinical space is at a premium."

The FDA granted the approval of TEPEZZA to Horizon Therapeutics, a global biopharmaceutical company based in Dublin. The drug received Priority Review, Orphan Drug, Fast Track, and Breakthrough Therapy designations from the FDA.

"Today is a great day for people living with thyroid eye disease, a rare, vision-threatening disease that previously had no FDA-approved treatment options," said Horizon Therapeutics' Timothy Walbert, chairman, president and chief executive officer, in the company's official press release announcing the FDA approval. "The TED community has gone far too long without an FDA-approved therapy, and we are grateful to the people living with TED and physicians who partnered with us on the clinical development program that led to today's approval of TEPEZZA."

About Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP

Chartwell is a limited partnership between UPMC, Butler Health System, Heritage Valley Health System, and Washington Health System with three branch locations in Altoona, Erie, and Pittsburgh. For more than 30 years, Chartwell has provided the latest in advanced therapies and medications to patients for the treatment of chronic, rare, and/or complex conditions. The pharmacy provides services, therapies, and medications for home infusion, specialty pharmacy, and enteral nutrition throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, New York, Florida, and South Carolina.

###

For more information about Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP, please visit www.chartwellpa.com.