

MARYLAND PHARMACY PROGRAM

Medicaid - Pharmacy Assistance - Pharmacy Discount

No. 23 Wednesday, February 22, 2006

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) **Maryland Pharmacy Program** (MPP) has developed the **Maryland Pharmacy Program Advisory**. To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations. It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via DHMH, please contact the MPP representative at 410-767-1455.

Changes to the Preferred Drug List (PDL) Effective April 2006

Several healthcare practitioners suggested that the Pharmacy Program provide advanced notice of Preferred Drug List (PDL) changes. Below you will find the changes that will go into effect the first full week of April 2006. Because April 1 falls on a weekend this year and Mondays are normally hectic for pharmacies, the revised PDL will go into effect on Tuesday April 4, 2006. A more detailed version of the PDL with preferred as well as non-preferred drugs listed will be sent to you in March.

At the P&T Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 9, 2006, the decisions in 26 therapeutic categories were made. Most of the P&T decisions involved additions (28 drugs) to the PDL while there were only 7 drugs recommended for removal from the Preferred Drug List. Please refer to the chart that follows below that shows those PDL decisions. The drugs written in *italics* denote a status change.

Four new drugs were also reviewed and the following decisions were made as it relates to their status on the PDL:

Therapeutic Category	Drug Name	PDL Status
Bone Resorption Suppression Agents	Actonel with Calcium	DO NOT ADD
Bone Resorption Suppression Agents	Fortical	DO NOT ADD
Fluoroquinolones	Proquin XR	DO NOT ADD
Glucocorticoids, Inhaled	Asmanex	ADD

	Therapeutic Category	Current PDL	PDL (effective April 1, 2006)
Analgesics	Analgesics, Narcotics (No change in this category)	generics Duragesic (Brand only) Kadian	generics Duragesic (Brand only) Kadian
	Anti-Migraine Agents, Triptans	Axert Maxalt, Maxalt-MLT Zomig (all dosage forms)	Axert Imitrex (all dosage forms) Maxalt, Maxalt-MLT
	ACE Inhibitor/Calcium Channel Blockers (No change in this category)	Lotrel Tarka	Lotrel Tarka
	Angiotensin Receptor Blockers	Avapro, Avalide Cozaar, Hyzaar Diovan, Diovan HCT Micardis, Micardis HCT	Avapro, Avalide Benicar, Benicar HCT Cozaar, Hyzaar Diovan, Diovan HCT Micardis, Micardis HCT
	Beta Blockers	generics Inderal LA Innopran XL Toprol XL	generics Coreg Inderal LA Toprol XL
Cardiovascular	Calcium Channel Blockers	Generics Cardizem LA Dynacirc CR Sular Verelan PM	Generics Cardizem LA Dynacirc CR Norvasc Sular Verelan PM
	Lipotropics, Other	generics Colestid Niaspan Tricor	Generics Colestid Lofibra Niaspan Tricor
	Lipotropics, Statins (No change in this category)	Lovastatin Advicor Altoprev Crestor Lescol, Lescol XL Vytorin Zocor	Lovastatin Advicor Altoprev Crestor Lescol, Lescol XL Vytorin Zocor

	Therapeutic Category	Current PDL	PDL (effective April 1, 2006)
Central Nervous System	Anticonvulsants (New category) (Grandfathering applies in this category)		Generics Carbatrol Celontin Depakote Depakote Sprinkles Depakote ER Diastat Equetro Felbatol Gabitril Keppra Lamictal Mebaral Peganone Topamax Trileptal
	Antidepressants, Other (Grandfathering applies in this category)	generics Effexor, Effexor XR	generics Effexor, Effexor XR Wellbutrin XL
	Sedative Hypnotics (Grandfathering applies in this category)	generics Restoril 7.5mg Sonata	generics Ambien, Ambien CR Lunesta Rozerem
ine	Hypoglycemics, Meglitinides (No change in this category)	Starlix	Starlix
Endocrine	Hypoglycemics, TZDs	Actos	ActoPlusMet Actos Avandamet Avandia
Gastrointestinal	Phosphate Binders	Magnebind Rx PhosLo	Fosrenol Magnebind Rx PhosLo Renagel
	Proton Pump Inhibitors	Prevacid Prilosec OTC	Nexium Prevacid
	Ulcerative Colitis Agents	generics <i>Colazal</i> Pentasa	generics Asacol Canasa Dipentum Pentasa

	Therapeutic Category	Current PDL	PDL (effective April 1, 2006)
	Anticoagulants, Injectable	Fragmin Lovenox	Arixtra Fragmin
			Lovenox
	Erythropoietins	Aranesp	Aranesp
	(No change in this category)	Procrit	Procrit
	Growth Hormones (Clinical Prior Authorization	Norditropin	Norditropin
SS	required for all drugs in this	Nutropin AQ Tev-Tropin	Nutropin AQ Saizen
lgl	category.)	1ev-11opin	Serostim
cts			Tev-Tropin
Injectables	Hepatitis C Agents	Peg-Intron	Copegus
		Peg-Intron Redipen	Pegasys
		Rebetol (Brand only)	Peg-Intron
			Peg-Intron Redipen
			Rebetol (Brand only)
	Multiple Sclerosis	Avonex	Avonex
	Agents	Betaseron	Betaseron
	(No change in this category)	Rebif	Rebif
Š	Otic Antibiotics (No change in this category)	generic	generic
Otics	(No change in this category)	Ciprodex Coly-Mycin S	Ciprodex Coly-Mycin S
		Floxin Otic	Floxin Otic
	Antihistamines,	loratadine, loratadine-D	loratadine, loratadine-D
ory	Minimally Sedating	Clarinex Syrup	Zyrtec Syrup
rat	, ,	7 1	
Respiratory			
R			
ic	Acne Agents, Topical		generics
al ologic	(New Category)		Akne-Mycin
			Azelex
Topic Dermato			Nuox
De			Retin A-Micro
	BPH Agents	generics	Tazorac generics
	D1111150110	Flomax	Avodart
		Proscar	Flomax
S		Uroxatral	Uroxatral
Urologics	Bladder Relaxants	oxybutynin	oxybutynin
rol		Ditropan XL	Ditropan XL
U		Enablexxytrol	Enablex
			Oxytrol
			Sanctura
			Vesicare