



MARYLAND PHARMACY PROGRAM

Medicaid - Pharmacy Assistance – Pharmacy Discount

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ADVISORY

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 <i>Zomig (all dosage forms)</i>	Axert <i>Imitrex (all dosage forms)</i> Maxalt, Maxalt-MLT
Cardiovascular	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 <i>Benicar, Benicar HCT</i> Cozaar, Hyzaar Diovan, Diovan HCT Micardis, Micardis HCT
	Beta Blockers	generics Inderal LA <i>Innopran XL</i> Toprol XL	generics <i>Coreg</i> Inderal LA Toprol XL
	Calcium Channel Blockers	Generics Cardizem LA Dynacirc CR Sular Verelan PM	Generics Cardizem LA Dynacirc CR <i>Norvasc</i> Sular Verelan PM
	Lipotropics, Other	generics Colestid Niaspan Tricor	Generics Colestid <i>Lofibra</i> 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 <i>Wellbutrin XL</i>
	Sedative Hypnotics (Grandfathering applies in this category)	generics <i>Restoril 7.5mg</i> <i>Sonata</i>	generics <i>Ambien, Ambien CR</i> <i>Lunesta</i> <i>Rozerem</i>
Endocrine	Hypoglycemics, Meglitinides (No change in this category)	Starlix	Starlix
	Hypoglycemics, TZDs	Actos	<i>ActoPlusMet</i> Actos <i>Avandamet</i> <i>Avandia</i>
Gastrointestinal	Phosphate Binders	Magnebind Rx PhosLo	<i>Fosrenol</i> Magnebind Rx PhosLo <i>Renagel</i>
	Proton Pump Inhibitors	Prevacid <i>Prilosec OTC</i>	<i>Nexium</i> Prevacid
	Ulcerative Colitis Agents	generics <i>Colazal</i> Pentasa	generics <i>Asacol</i> <i>Canasa</i> <i>Dipentum</i> Pentasa

	Therapeutic Category	Current PDL	PDL (effective April 1, 2006)
Injectables	Anticoagulants, Injectable	Fragmin Lovenox	<i>Arixtra</i> Fragmin Lovenox
	Erythropoietins (No change in this category)	Aranesp Procrit	Aranesp Procrit
	Growth Hormones (Clinical Prior Authorization required for all drugs in this category.)	Norditropin Nutropin AQ Tev-Tropin	Norditropin Nutropin AQ <i>Saizen</i> <i>Serostim</i> Tev-Tropin
	Hepatitis C Agents	Peg-Intron Peg-Intron Redipen Rebetol (Brand only)	<i>Copegus</i> <i>Pegasys</i> Peg-Intron Peg-Intron Redipen Rebetol (Brand only)
	Multiple Sclerosis Agents (No change in this category)	Avonex Betaseron Rebif	Avonex Betaseron Rebif
Otics	Otic Antibiotics (No change in this category)	generic Ciprodex Coly-Mycin S Floxin Otic	generic Ciprodex Coly-Mycin S Floxin Otic
Respiratory	Antihistamines, Minimally Sedating	loratadine, loratadine-D <i>Clarinx Syrup</i>	loratadine, loratadine-D <i>Zyrtec Syrup</i>
Topical Dermatologic	Acne Agents, Topical (New Category)		generics Akne-Mycin Azelex Nuox Retin A-Micro Tazorac
Urologics	BPH Agents	generics Flomax <i>Proscar</i> Uroxatral	generics <i>Avodart</i> Flomax Uroxatral
	Bladder Relaxants	oxybutynin Ditropan XL Enablexxytrol	oxybutynin Ditropan XL Enablex Oxytrol <i>Sanctura</i> <i>Vesicare</i>