Generic vs. Brand status on Maryland Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

In order for the State to enhance the benefit of the PDL, in some instances the multisource brand name drug is Preferred over its generic equivalents, because the branded drug is less costly than its generic counterpart. This happens most often in cases of newly released generics. When manufacturer rebates are taken into consideration, the brand name drug has a lower net cost to the State.

The purpose of this Advisory is to alert you that effective today, April 25, 2012, brand name Geodon® and Lexapro® will be preferred over the generic. The claim with DAW 6 will adjudicate and be priced appropriately. Claims with any other DAW code will reject when the brand name drug is Preferred, no MedWatch is needed.

- If any problems are encountered during the on-line claim adjudication of Preferred Brands, contact ACS 24-hour Help Desk at 800-932-3918 for additional system overrides related to the use of the correct DAW code (for example, if there is other insurance primary). All past Advisories are available online on DHMH’s new web link at: http://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/Provider%20Advisories.aspx

For a listing of other brand name drugs which are currently preferred over their generic equivalents please see Advisory # 102.