



Provider Issue Briefing

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Contra Costa Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

Pharmacy and Therapeutics NewsNotes

Preferred Drug List (PDL) changes should be effective around February 15, 2013

The CCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee approved **addition** of the following agents to the Preferred Drug List. These agents **will not** require *Prior Authorization*:

- Capsaicin 0.025% and 0.075% topical cream
- Ella (ulipristal) 30mg tablet subject to quantity limits: 1 tablet per month, 6 times per year
- Naloxone 1mg/ml injection

Other formulary changes:

- Voltaren 1% gel added subject to the following Prior Authorization criteria:
 - Trial and failure or contraindication to at least two formulary oral NSAIDs
 - Contraindications would include: pt history of PUD or GFR < 60ml/min
 - Trial and failure or intolerance to topical capsaicin
- Zolpidem new starts in females limited to 5mg in accordance with recent FDA recommendations
 - Past female users of 10mg will be continued
- Ketoconazole 200mg tablets removed from formulary due to recent FDA recommendations related to drug-drug interactions
- Schedule 3 controlled substances will be refillable at pharmacies no sooner than 4 days early and in no greater quantities than a 60-day supply calculated according to the prescribed directions

In response to the national epidemic of opiate abuse, DEA has begun enforcing their regulatory oversight of pharmacists' role in dispensing controlled substances. DEA wants to ensure prescriptions are issued for a legitimate medical purpose. Pharmacies and pharmacists are requiring more information including but not limited to: diagnosis, previous medications tried, and length of expected treatment. They will apply more scrutiny to opiate prescriptions which exceed 120mg/day of morphine equivalent. Prescribers should be aware they may be informed should a pharmacy discover possible issues during a CURES lookup of the patient.

CCHP updates the Preferred Drug List (PDL) formulary after each quarterly Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee meeting. CCHP invites and encourages practitioners to access each update through the following means:

A printable copy of the CCHP preferred drug list can be found here:

<http://cchealth.org/healthplan/pdf/pdl.pdf>

A searchable CCHP preferred drug list can be found here:

<http://formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteID=MMRREQ3QBC>

EPOCRATES – *free* mobile & online formulary resource

How to add the CCHP formulary to your epocrates user profile:

1. Go to www.epocrates.com.
2. Click on "My Account" in the top right.
3. Sign in with your Epocrates username and password, if needed.
4. Click on "Edit Formularies."
5. Follow the on screen instructions to select and download formularies or to remove formularies.
 - For the 'Select State' filter, click **California**
 - For the 'Select Category' filter, click **Health Plan**
 - Choose the **Contra Costa Healthplan** formulary; click the 'Add' button
 - Click the "Done" button when you've finished.
6. Update your device, and the formularies on your mobile device will be changed accordingly.



Epocrates mobile is supported on the iOS (iPhone, iTouch, iPad), Android, & BlackBerry platforms

If you have any questions about the installation or use of Epocrates, please contact Epocrates Customer Support at goldsupport@epocrates.com or at (800)230-2150.

Questions and comments may be directed to CCHP Pharmacy by emailing cchp_pharmacy_director@hsd.cccounty.us