



Provider Issue Briefing

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Date: January 2015

Contra Costa Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

Pharmacy and Therapeutics NewsNotes

Preferred Drug List (PDL) changes should be effective around January 2015

The CCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee approved the following changes to the Preferred Drug List:

Additions:

- Doxycycline monohydrate capsules, 50mg, 100mg
- Clarithromycin tablets, 500mg

Additions with quantity and/or duration limitations:

Limited to one 6-month treatment course per year:

- Nicotine patch, 7mg/day, 14mg/day, 21mg/day
- Nicotine gum, 2mg, 4mg
- Nicotine lozenge, 2mg, 4mg
- Varenicline tablets, 0.5mg, 1mg

Removals:

- Benzoyl peroxide and clindamycin topical gel (Benzacilin)
- Cordran tape 4mcg/cm²

Effective January 1, 2015, the California Department of Managed Healthcare (DMHC) requires prescribers to use pharmacy prior authorization Form No. 61-211 for non-Medicare health plans. Healthplans will no longer be able to accept other prescription drug prior authorization forms. RMC practitioners will notice changes to the PBMPX referral to accommodate the new form. CPN providers may access the new form at the links below.

DMHC Prescription Prior Authorization Form 61-211 may be found at the following:

PDF format: <http://tinyurl.com/cchprxpaform>

Online form: <http://tinyurl.com/cchprxpa>

Medication Prior Authorization processing turnaround time to become 1 business day:

CA Department of Health Care Services has promulgated new regulations regarding Prior Authorization processing turnaround times. CCHP is currently redesigning its workflows to achieve 1 business day turnaround on all medication Prior Authorizations.

Smoking cessation counseling certificate no longer required:

CCHP will no longer require members wishing to cease smoking to obtain a certificate of smoking cessation counseling. Reprogramming of claims processing is occurring, expect these changes to take effect in mid to late January.

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

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