Provider Issue Briefing

CONTRA COSTA
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Date: April 2016

Contra Costa Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

The CCHP P&T committee last met on 4/8/2016 – highlights of the meeting are below:

Changes to the Preferred Drug List (PDL):

- **Removal of prior authorization (PA) requirements for duloxetine – prescriptions for duloxetine may now be filled without prior authorization, and are limited to #60 capsules per 30 days (includes all strengths: 20mg, 30mg, and 60mg).**
- **Invokana (and Invokamet) have been added to the PDL – step therapy with metformin is required (if step therapy is met, claim will pay without PA. If step therapy is not met, then a PA will be required).**
- **A clarification on diabetes test strips:**
    - **Members using insulin are limited to #150 strips per 30 days.**
    - **Members with gestational diabetes are also limited to #150 strips per 30 days.**
    - **Members who are not using insulin and are not pregnant are limited to #100 strips per 90 days.**

> **Effective 6/1/2016, TrueTest glucose test strips and TrueResult glucose meters will no longer be manufactured. CCHP will be coordinating a change to the new product TrueMetrix. Letters will be sent to members and pharmacies in Mid-April. CCHP will also work with the Epic team to update the order sets. Please have members call the CCHP pharmacy unit with questions at (925)957-7260 x2**

- **Naloxone is still carved out for MediCal members. For commercial plan members on chronic opiate therapy, naloxone is a covered product. Walgreens has agreed to supply (free of charge) a nasal atomizer to any CCHP commercial plan member who presents a prescription for a naloxone pre-filled syringe. CCHP is working with the Epic team to assure that the order sets are in place for the proper formulation of naloxone.**

Changes to the PDL will be effective May 2016

Prior Authorization Requests:

On average, CCHP receives >1000 prior authorization requests per month. **40%** of the prior authorization requests that are received by the plan are **unnecessary** (the patient isn't covered under CCHP, the drug is already covered on the PDL, there is already an authorization in place, etc.).

Unnecessary prior authorization requests needlessly bog down the healthcare system and waste the time of medical office and pharmacy staff. CCHP is asking that providers review the PDL and/or use one of the numerous tools available to view the CCHP Preferred Drug List (as outlined below). Providers may also call the CCHP pharmacy unit directly with any formulary-related questions. Working together we can increase the effectiveness and timeliness of the PA program.

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There are numerous ways to view the CCHP Preferred Drug List:

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:

- An interactive searchable formulary is available within Epic (contact the Epic team with any questions related to functionality).
- 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**
  - CCHP providers may add the CCHP formulary to their mobile devices using the following steps:
    - Go to www.epocrates.com.
    - Click on "My Account" in the top right.
    - Sign in with your Epocrates username and password, if needed.
    - Click on "Edit Formularies."
    - Follow the on screen instructions to select and download formularies or to remove formularies (plan name in Epocrates is Contra Costa Health Plan).
    - 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.

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