



Provider Issue Briefing

CONTRA COSTA
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Contra Costa Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T)

The CCHP P&T committee met on 3/25/2022. Updates from the meeting are outlined below:

****Changes to the PDL will be effective by mid-May 2022****

Updates/Announcements:

1. Fee-For-Service Medi-Cal Carve-Out (Medi-Cal Rx) began January 1, 2022:

Medi-Cal Rx is the administration of the Medi-Cal Pharmacy Benefits through the fee-for service delivery system. Medi-Cal Rx implementation began on January 1, 2022. Medi-Cal Rx is now the host of the formulary and prior authorizations for CCHP Medi-Cal members for their retail pharmacy benefit. Please go to the DHCS Medi-Cal Rx website at <https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/> or contact CCHP Pharmacy Department for more details.

2. Provider Reminder Regarding Concurrent Opioid and Benzodiazepine Usage:

The opioid epidemic continues to claim the lives of residents within Contra Costa County. Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP) is committed to improving the safety and wellbeing of our members. Recent evidence demonstrates a higher risk of overdose when the combination of opioid medications is used with benzodiazepines. CCHP collects data which is used to reach out to providers to alert them to their patients that are on this dangerous combination of medication in order to prevent a potentially fatal overdose.

The CCHP pharmacy department has continued this provider outreach project to make providers aware of this potentially dangerous combination.

Quick reference table for all changes to the Preferred Drug List (PDL) and/or Prior Authorization (PA) criteria (for full details of each change, please see individual drugs listed below this table):

<u>Changes Made</u>	<u>Drug Name</u>
Created new PA criteria:	Preferred biological agents criteria Vemlidy (tenofovir alafenamide)
Modified PA criteria:	Otezla (apremilast) Humira (adalimumab) Enbrel (etanercept) Simponi (golimumab) Remicade (infliximab) Xeljanz (tofacitinib) Stelara (ustekinumab) Entyvio (vedolizumab) Elidel (pimecrolimus)
ADDED to the CCHP formulary:	Airduo (fluticasone/salmeterol) Pradaxa (daigatran) Pataday (olopatadine) 0.2% and 0.7% eye drops Brilinta (ticagrelor) Synjardy XR (empagliflozin/metformin) Xigduo XR (dapagliflozin/metformin)

Removed from CCHP formulary:	Hydroxyzine injectable Promethazine injectable Methocarbamol injection Carisoprodol/aspirin/codeine tablet Baclofen injection Vitafof tablet

- **Newly Established criteria for preferred biological agents:** CCHP's preferred biological agents are Humira (adalimumab), Actemra (tocilizumab), Cimzia (certolizumab), Taltz (ixekizumab), Xeljanz (tofacitinib), Skyrizi (risankizumab-rzaa) and Rinvoq (upadacitinib). Two preferred biological agents must be tried and failed prior to approval of non-preferred biological agents, unless not FDA indicated
- **Newly Established criteria for Vemlidy (tenofovir alafenamide):** requires a trial and failure of entecavir AND a contraindication to tenofovir disoproxil fumarate therapy such as compromised renal function or bone disease
- **Modification of medical criteria for Entyvio (vedolizumab):** removed requirement to try and fail Humira and Enbrel
- **Modification of medical criteria for infliximab:** removed requirement to try and fail Humira and Enbrel
- **Modification of criteria for Elidel (pimecrolimus):** requires trial and failure of at least one formulary corticosteroid AND topical tacrolimus

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

CCHP updates the Preferred Drug List (PDL) 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 PDL can be found here: <http://cchealth.org/healthplan/pdf/pdl.pdf>
- A searchable copy of the CCHP PDL 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:
 - Open the Epocrates application on your mobile device.
 - Click on the “formulary” button on the home screen.
 - Click “add new formulary” button on the bottom of the screen.
 - Use the search box to locate “Contra Costa Health Plan” Medi-Cal or Commercial formulary. Click on each formulary that you would like to add, and then click the “add formulary” button.

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.

Providers may request a copy of CCHP pharmacy management procedures or specific drug PA criteria by contacting the pharmacy unit directly at 925-957-7260 x1, or via the email listed below:

P&T updates and DUR educational bulletins can be viewed online at
<http://cchealth.org/healthplan/provider-pharmacy-therapeutics.php>

Questions and comments may be directed to CCHP Pharmacy by emailing
joseph.cardinali@cchealth.org
