



PREFERRED DRUG LIST UPDATES

Integrated (Title 19/21 SMI) and ACC

Additions:

- Erlotinib Hcl Tab 25 mg and 100 Mg (Prior Authorization Required)
- Ferrous Fumarate Tab 325 Mg
- Forteo Inj 600 Mcg/2.4ml (Prior Authorization Required)
- Glycerin Suppos 2.1 Gm
- Ibandronate Sodium 150 Mg Tab
- Imatinib Mesylate 100 Mg and 400 mg Tab (Prior Authorization Required)
- Mesalamine Cap ER 24hr 0.375 Gm (Quantity Level Limit)
- Nevirapine Susp 50 Mg/5ml
- Orkambi Granules 100-125 Mg and 200-125 Mg (Prior Authorization Required)
- Orkambi Tab 100-125 Mg and 200-125 Mg (Prior Authorization Required)
- Omeprazole Tablet Delayed Release Disintegrating 20 Mg (Quantity Level Limit)
- Prolia Syringe 60 Mg/ML (Prior Authorization Required)
- Tramadol Hcl Tab 100mg (Quantity Level Limit)
- Zinc Oxide Oint 40%

Removals:

- Apriso Cap ER 24Hr 0.375GM
- Bivigam Solution
- Carimune Nf Inj
- Diphenhydramine HCl Liquid 6.25 Mg/mL
- Ferrous Sulfate Syrup 300 Mg/5ml (60 Mg/5ml Elemental)
- Gleevec Tab
- Konsyl Daily Fiber Packet 100%
- Levalbuterol HCL Sol Nebulizer
- Polyethylene Glycol 3350 Oral Packet
- Sennosides Tab 17.2 Mg
- Sodium Bicarbonate Powder
- Tarceva Tab
- Viramune Susp 50mg/ml

Other Updates

- Valacyclovir Tab 1gm (Termed Quantity Limit)
- Valacyclovir Tab 500mg (Termed Quantity Limit)

Behavioral Health (Title 19/21 Non-SMI & Non-Title 19/21)

Additions:

- None

Removals:

- Konsyl Daily Fiber Packet 100%
- Sennosides Tab 17.2 Mg

** Drugs that are not on the formulary may be available via PA (prior authorization) **

- For the complete preferred drug lists, please refer to the Mercy Care websites below
 - RBHA: <https://www.mercycareaz.org/providers/rbha-forproviders/pharmacy>
 - ACC: <https://www.mercycareaz.org/providers/complecare-forproviders/pharmacy>

COVID 19 You can find more information on the new coronavirus at this link:

- <https://www.mercycareaz.org/providers/complecare-forproviders/news>

In an effort to address preparedness for COVID-19 Mercy Care has made the following changes to the prescription pharmacy benefit:

- Refill too soon edit removed on all non-controlled medications
 - Member may continue to fill prescriptions for up to a 30-day supply or they may fill a 90-day supply of maintenance medications at a Mercy Care contracted retail or mail order pharmacy
 - Controlled Substances may be refilled early when the pharmacy staff has checked with the prescribing clinician and the clinician has agreed to the early refill. The pharmacy staff or the prescribing clinician shall contact the pharmacy help desk for an immediate override
 - CVS Pharmacy Help Desk (ACC, DD, ALTCS): (855) 548-5646
 - CVS Pharmacy Help desk (RBHA): (855) 319-6295
- Prior authorizations on most medications that were set to expire by May 20th, 2020, were extended for an additional 90days. The pharmacy may have to contact the provider for an approval to request a fill of an expired prescription, but a prior authorization will not have to be submitted during the 90-day prior authorization extension
- Waived copayments on prescriptions for those members that previously had copayments on prescriptions
- Prior Authorizations removed for the following Therapeutic Classes:
 - Antibiotics
 - Antimalarials
 - Antivirals
 - Beta2 Agonist Inhalers, Inhalant Solutions an Oral Agents
 - Inhaled Short and Long Acting Anticholinergic Inhalers
 - Long-acting Beta2 Agonist-Corticosteroid Combination Inhalers
 - Long-acting Beta2 Agonist-Anticholinergic Combination Inhalers
 - Corticosteroid Inhalers and Inhalant Solutions
 - Corticosteroid Oral Agents
 - Nebulizers
 - Cough and Cold products
 - Antihistamines
 - Nasal Decongestants
 - Combination products of antihistamines and nasal decongestants
 - Cough suppression products including guaifenesin and combination products
 - Guaifenesin oral tablets and combination products
 - Analgesics / Anti-febrile products (aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen, acetaminophen suppositories, etc.)
 - Mast Cell Stabilizers
 - Methylxanthines (aminophylline and theophylline)

Singulair (montelukast) and All Montelukast Generics: Strengthened Boxed Warning - Due to Restricting Use for Allergic Rhinitis

FDA is strengthening existing warnings about serious behavior and mood-related changes with montelukast (Singulair and generics), which is a prescription medicine for asthma and allergy. FDA is taking this action after a review of available information that led us to reevaluate the benefits and risks of montelukast use. Montelukast prescribing information already includes warnings about mental health side effects, including suicidal thoughts or actions; however, many health care professionals and patients/caregivers are not aware of the risk. FDA decided a stronger warning is needed after conducting an extensive review of available information and convening a panel of outside experts, and therefore determined that a Boxed Warning was appropriate.

SAMHSA Issues Additional Guidance on OUD Treatment, Privacy, Telehealth During COVID-19 Pandemic

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released [further guidance](#) on the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) during the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically with respect to privacy and sharing of medical records related to substance use treatment. It has also clarified, with [FAQs, guidance](#) it released earlier this week about opioid treatment programs' (OTPs') ability to provide medications via telehealth during the pandemic.

The guidance also includes a reminder that the regulations require programs to “document certain information in their records after a disclosure is made pursuant to the medical emergency exception.”

However, this exemption does not apply to new OTP patients treated with methadone. These patients must still be evaluated in person.

References:

1. <https://www.drugs.com/fda/singulair-montelukast-all-montelukast-generics-strengthened-boxed-warning-due-restricting-allergic-14351.html> [tps://www.ashp.org/Drug-Shortages/Current-Shortages/Drug-Shortage-Detail.aspx?id=1303](https://www.ashp.org/Drug-Shortages/Current-Shortages/Drug-Shortage-Detail.aspx?id=1303)
2. [APA Psychiatric News Alert <feedblitz@mail.feedblitz.com>](mailto:APA%20Psychiatric%20News%20Alert%20%3Cfeedblitz@mail.feedblitz.com%3E)

This newsletter is brought to you by the Mercy Care Pharmacy Team. For questions, please email Fanny A Musto (MustoF@mercycares.org) or Denise Volkov (VolkovD@mercycares.org)