

PREFERRED DRUG LIST UPDATES

• Integrated (Title 19/21 SMI) and ACC:

Additions:

- Bimatoprost Sol 0.03% (Step Therapy Required)
- Ethinyl Estradiol 0.015mg and Etonogestrel 0.12mg Ring
- Everolimus Tab 2.5mg, 5mg and 7.5mg (PA Required)
- Travoprost Dro 0.004% (PA Required)

Removals:

- Afinitor Tab 2.5mg, 5mg and 7.5mg
- First-Vanco Sol 25mg/ml and 50mg/ml
- Kyleena
- Methyclothiazide Tab 5mg
- Mirena
- NuvaRing 0.12-0.015mg/24hr
- Phospholine (Echothiophate Iodide) Opth Solution 0.125%
- Rabeprazole EC 20 Mg Cap
- Skyla
- Travatan Z Solution 0.004%

Other Updates:

- Combigan Sol 0.2/0.5% (Added Quantity Level Limit)
- Ibandronate Inj 3mg/3ml (Added Quantity Level Limit)
- Levofloxacin Sol 0.5% (Added Quantity Level Limit)
- Memantine Tab HCl 5 mg and 10mg (Added Quantity Level Limit)
- Tazarotene Cre 0.1% (Added Step Therapy Required)
- **Behavioral Health (Title 19/21 Non-SMI & Non-Title 19/21)**
 - None
 - ** 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/completecure-forproviders/pharmacy>

More Cases of Novel Coronavirus Reported in the US

- Additional cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) have been confirmed in the US, bringing the total number of cases to 5, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The most recent cases were reported in patients in Arizona and California who had recently returned from Wuhan, China where an outbreak of the novel coronavirus has been ongoing since December 2019. Healthcare professionals suspected the illness based on the patients' travel history and symptoms, and lab testing at the CDC confirmed the infection. Cases have now been reported in a total of 4 states: Arizona, California, Illinois, and Washington. While considered a public health threat, the CDC states that, at this time, "the risk to the US general public is low."

- According to the Agency, patients who meet the following criteria should be evaluated as a patient under investigation for 2019-nCov:
 - Fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness and in the last 14 days before symptoms onset, a history of travel from Wuhan City, China or close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019-nCov while that person was ill.
 - Fever or symptoms of lower respiratory illness and in the last 14 days, close contact with an ill laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCov patient.
 - Recommendations for reporting, testing, specimen collection, and infection control can be found on the [CDC website](#).
- Coronaviridae is a large family of viruses, of which some strains cause respiratory illness in humans, while others circulate among animals such as camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people; this infection can then become epidemic among humans via respiratory droplets between close contacts, as occurred with the outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). The CDC does highlight that, presently, it is unclear how 2019-nCoV is being transmitted between humans.

Drug Safety Communication: Belviq, Belviq XR (lorcaserin) - Due to Possible Increased Risk of Cancer

- The FDA is alerting the public that results from a clinical trial assessing safety show a possible increased risk of cancer with the weight management medicine Belviq, Belviq XR (lorcaserin). At this time, the cause of the cancer is uncertain, and FDA cannot conclude that lorcaserin contributes to the cancer risk. However, they wanted to make the public aware of this potential risk. FDA continues to evaluate the clinical trial results and will communicate final conclusions and recommendations when they have completed reviews.

Absence of Major Depression and Substance Use Disorder More Likely After Recovery from Eating Disorder

- About 56%-98% of patients who have an eating disorder (ED) also have psychiatric comorbidities. Major depressive disorder (MDD) and substance use disorder (SUD) are common ones, with the former affecting 28-95% of individuals and the latter 17%-46%. Both conditions have been seen to increase the risk of relapse and early death.
- 228 women who had either anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa were assessed. It was seen that those who recovered from ED were 2.17 times more likely to not have major depressive disorder and 5.3 times more likely to not have substance use disorder compared with those who had active ED (MDD percentages were 22% vs 38% and SUD percentages were 3% vs 13% for patients who recovered from ED versus those who had active ED, respectively).
- Women studied were seeking treatment for an ED more than 20 years ago, so results may not be generalizable. Today's evidence-based ED treatment may make today's ED populations unlike the studied group.

References:

1. <https://www.drugs.com/fda/safety-communication-belvig-belvig-xr-lorcaserin-due-possible-increased-risk-cancer-14343.html>
2. Schizophrenia T, Disorder C, Opportunities S et al. Absence of Major Depression and Substance Use Disorder More Likely After Recovery from Eating Disorder - PsychU. PsychU. <https://www.psychu.org/eating-disorder-research-summary/>. Published 2019. Accessed December 28, 2019.
3. <https://www.empr.com/home/news/more-cases-of-novel-coronavirus-reported-in-the-us/>

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