MaineCare Services
An Office of the Department of Health and Human Services
Paul R. LePage, Governor Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services
MaineCare Services
Pharmacy Unit
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Toll Free (866) 796-2463; Fax: (207) 287-8601
TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

PHARMACY BENEFIT UPDATE

FALL/WINTER 2016 ISSUE

Preferred Drug List (PDL) News:

PDL Changes

This issue of the Pharmacy Benefit Updates contains changes to the Preferred Drug List for 1.1.2017 as well as updates on MaineCare pharmacy benefit changes.

Non-preferred			
Abilify	Arixtra	Benzoyl Peroxide	Epaned
Exforge	Felbatol	Flector Patch	Kadian
Kovaltry	Namenda	Namenda XR	Nuwiq
Pataday	Patanol	Ritalin LA	Suprax Tab
Tanzeum Inj	Trilipix	Zenzedi	Recombinate
Preferred			
Alphagan	Amlodipine/Valsartan	Androgel Pump 1.62%	Aripiprazole
Byetta	Durezol	Enbrel Sureclick	Entresto
Epinephrine	Epipen JR	Fondapaprinux	Koate-DVI
Memantine	Mitigare	Novoeight	Pazeo
Quillichew ER	Quillivant XR	Suprax Chewable	Victoza Inj
The following Medications have additional PDL clarifications or criteria			
Latuda will be preferred with a step through at least one trial of a preferred atypical generic within the last 180 days.			
Auvi- Q is no longer available and will be removed from the PDL.			

Maine's Opiate Limits per PL 488 

MaineCare would like to remind pharmacy providers about Public Law 488 which was implemented July 29 2016. This law requires that the maximum combined daily dose of opioid medications for all new prescriptions of opiate medications is 100 Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME). Highlights of the law are outlined below.

Beginning January 2017:

- All current users above the combined daily dose of 300MME must titrate total daily dose of opioid medications below 300 MME.
- The maximum daily supply of an opiate prescription for acute pain will be limited to seven-day supplies.
- The maximum day supply of an opiate prescription for chronic pain will be limited to 30-day supplies.

As of July 1, 2017:

- All users of opioid medications must comply with the maximum combined daily dose of 100 MME.

An MME conversion chart is available at www.mainecarepdl.org under the General Pharmacy Info.

The following are general exceptions to the law:

- Pain associated with cancer treatment
- End-of-life and hospice care
- Palliative care

Per MaineCare criteria, the diagnosis of cancer must be written on the prescription. A palliative care exception will require Prior Authorization (PA) with appropriate clinical documentation.

Adderall XR Update for 2017 

MaineCare would like to inform all prescribers and pharmacy providers that, effective February 1, 2017, MaineCare will implement a change regarding MaineCare members 22 years of age or older who were previously grandfathered on Adderall XR for the treatment of ADHD.

With the introduction of Vyvanse as the preferred long-acting amphetamine, members were originally allowed ("grandfathered") to remain on Adderall XR without a prior trial of Vyvanse. However, beginning Feb 1st, 2017, those members 22 years of age or older without a prior trial of the preferred product Vyvanse will be required to transition to that medication. .

Please note, effective July 1, 2017, members 21 years of age or younger who were previously grandfathered on Adderall XR for the treatment of ADHD will be required to transition to the currently preferred Vyvanse.

MaineCare understands that the transition to Vyvanse may take several months, so an extended notice is being sent to allow prescribers the time needed to convert patients. Approximately 40% of MaineCare members on Adderall XR have previously tried Vyvanse and the remaining percentage would require a new trial.

PA Statistics

For the third quarter of 2016 there were 28,333 unique PA requests, 88.98% were approved. The average determination time was 1.68 hours. The top five most frequently requested drugs were:

Suboxone (1,961)
Omeprazole (1,430)
Oxycodone HCL (1,143)
Adderall (1,084)
Vyvanse (1,037)

FDA Alerts

FDA analyses conclude that Xarelto clinical trial results were not affected by faulty monitoring device
http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm524678.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Testosterone and Other Anabolic Androgenic Steroids (AAS): FDA Statement - Risks Associated With Abuse and Dependence
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm526151.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

FDA launches competition to spur innovative technologies to help reduce opioid overdose deaths
http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm520945.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Eye Wash/Eye Irrigating Solutions Distributed by Major Pharmaceuticals and Rugby Laboratories: Recall - Microbial Contamination
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm519570.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Hyoscyamine Sulfate 0.125mg by Virtus Pharmaceuticals: Recall - Superpotent and Subpotent Test Results
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm520868.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Lamotrigine Orally Disintegrating Tablet 200 mg by Impax: Recall - Incorrect Labeling of Blister Cards
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm518486.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Opioid Pain or Cough Medicines Combined With Benzodiazepines: Drug Safety Communication - FDA Requiring Boxed Warning About Serious Risks and Death
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm518710.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Ovarian Cancer Screening Tests: Safety Communication - FDA Recommends Against Use
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm519540htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Direct-Acting Antivirals for Hepatitis C: Drug Safety Communication - Risk of Hepatitis B Reactivating
http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm523690.htm?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Next DUR Committee Meeting

Comments on the PDL or any PA's, either proposed or already in effect, may be made at these meetings or by e-mail, letter or phone if more convenient.

Date: March 14, 2017
Time: 5:30-8:30pm
Location: The Armory (Augusta, ME)

For DUR questions you may contact:

Roger Bondeson, Director of Operations, OMS
Roger.Bondeson@maine.gov

For PA/PDL questions you may contact:

Michael Ouellette, R.Ph
mouellette@changehealthcare.com
Jeffrey Barkin, MD
jbarkin@changehealthcare.com