



Pharmacy Benefit Update Fall/Winter 2022 Issue



Preferred Drug List (PDL) News

PDL Changes: This issue of the Pharmacy Benefit Updates contains information about changes to the Preferred Drug List for January 1, 2023, as well as updates on MaineCare pharmacy benefit changes.

Preferred

APIDRA	ASMANEX	BIVIGAM	CLEOCIN CREA
CUTAQUIG	DETROL TABS	DEXAMETH SOD PHOS SOLN	DIMETHYL FUMARATE CAP
DROXIA	EPOGEN SOLN	FENSOLVI	FLEBOGAMMA DIF
FLUOROMETHOLONE SUSP	GAMMAGARD S-D	HIZENTRA	KOVALTRY
LACOSAMIDE SOL	LACOSAMIDE TAB	LOKELMA	LOTEMAX SM DROPS GEL 0.38%
NEBIVOLOL HCL TAB	NUWIQ	OLOPATADINE HCL 0.2%	PIRFENIDONE TAB
PRIVIGEN	PROCENTRA	PYLERA	RITONAVIR TAB 100MG
RUXIENCE	SOLOSEC	TACROLIMUS OINT	TALICIA
TOUJEO MAX SOLOSTAR	TRULANCE	TWIRLA VELTASSA	XULANE

Non-Preferred

ALBUTEROL HFA	BYSTOLIC	COLCRYS	ESPEROCT
HEMANGEOL SOL	ORIAHNN	RITUXAN	SPS 30GM/120ML ENEMA SUSP
SPS SUSP	SUPREP SOL	TECFIDERA	ZOLMITRIPTAN SPRAY

Criteria

Abdry will be preferred after a trial and failure or TCSs and TCIs.
Eucrisa will be preferred after a trial and failure or TCSs and TCIs.
Orilissa will be preferred, with a clinical PA required. Prior treatment of NSAID and hormonal contraceptives required.
Promacta and Nplate will be preferred, with a Clinical PA required. Must see prior trial with insufficient response to corticosteroids and immunoglobulins.
Qelbree will be preferred, after a trial and fail either Atomoxetine OR any 2 preferred ADHD agents.



2022/23 Influenza (Flu) Season and other Vaccines

Preparation for the 2022/23 Influenza (Flu) season is now underway. MaineCare would like to remind pharmacy providers that the preferred vaccines listed may be subject to age restrictions. Failure to comply with Maine immunization regulations will subject these claims to recoupment.

The following are Preferred Vaccines with no prior authorization (PA) required:

- ✓ Afluria® (Quadrivalent)
- ✓ Fluarix® (Quadrivalent)
- ✓ FluLaval® (Quadrivalent)
- ✓ Fluzone® (Quadrivalent)

Based on recent updates to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations, the following vaccines are preferred for members ≥ 65 years of age:

- ✓ Fluad® (Quadrivalent)
- ✓ Flublok® (Quadrivalent)
- ✓ Fluzone® High-Dose (Quadrivalent)

Please refer to the following link for the ACIP schedules [ACIP Vaccine Recommendations and Schedules | CDC](#)



The following are additional vaccines covered under the MaineCare pharmacy benefit and are preferred products which may be subject to age edits:

- Hepatitis vaccines: ENGERIX-B, HAVRIX, RECOMBIVAX-HB, TWINRIX, VAQTA
- Herpes Zoster: SHINGRIX
- Meningococcus: MENACTRA, MENQUADFI, MENVEO
- Pneumococcal vaccines: PNEUMOVAX, PREVNAR, VAXNEUVANCE
- Rotavirus: ROTARIX, ROTATEQ
- Tetanus-diphtheria: TENIVAC
- Tetanus-diphtheria – pertussis: ADACEL, BOOSTRIX, DAPTACEL, INFANRIX
- Other: ACTHIB, GARDASIL-9, M-M-R, QUADRACEL, VIVOTIF

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-888-420-9711. Maine providers can also send inquiries via email to PBA_helpdesk@changehealthcare.com.



Prior Authorization (PA) Statistics September 2022

Top Five Drugs by PA	
DRUG	CLAIM COUNT
OXYCODONE HYDROCHLORIDE	257
AMPHETAMINE/DEXTROAMPHETA	141
HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE/AC	136
SUBOXONE	117
VYVANSE	107
Top Five Specialty Drugs by PA	
DRUG	CLAIM COUNT
SUBLOCADE	74
MAVYRET	56
AIMOVIG	42
CELECOXIB	32
HUMIRA PEN	29



RSV Update

The Office of MaineCare Services (OMS), in coordination with their Pharmacy Benefits Manager Change Healthcare (CHC), review data from the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) to track the epidemic season for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Palivizumab is indicated for the prevention of serious lower respiratory tract disease caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in infants. Peak RSV activity typically occurs between November and March, usually beginning in November or December. Due to the shift RSV circulation, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) supports the consideration of palivizumab in patients who would be candidates per current eligibility recommendations outlined in our prior authorization form.

MaineCare is currently accepting PA requests for coverage of palivizumab due to the increasing trend of positive RSV tests. The clinical benefit of palivizumab therapy is best realized by timing the

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



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administration to coincide with the peak of RSV activity.

OMS and CHC will continue to monitor RSV activity and may end the atypical inter-seasonal palivizumab approvals when the percent positives on antigen tests is $\leq 10\%$ for 2 weeks or the percent positives on PCR tests is $\leq 3\%$ for 2 consecutive weeks.

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Thank you for your continued support of MaineCare's pharmacy benefit program.

AAP GUIDANCE: <https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/interim-guidance-for-use-of-palivizumab-prophylaxis-to-prevent-hospitalization/>

Prior authorization/order forms should be sent directly to Change Healthcare at 888-879-6938.
<http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2022-10-25/synagisrsv-prevention-30120-35.pdf>



Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Committee Meetings

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

For DUR questions, you may contact:

Anne-Marie Toderico, PharmD, Pharmacy Director
Office of MaineCare Services
AnneMarie.Toderico@maine.gov

For PA/PDL questions, you may contact:

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



Pharmacy Help Desk Hours:

Monday- Friday 8am- 5pm

For emergencies the Pharmacy Help Desk 1-888-420-9711:

Monday- Friday 5pm-8pm

Saturday 8am- 8pm

Sunday 8am- 8pm

Please leave a message on the urgent voicemail and your call will be returned 15 minutes all non-urgent voicemails will be returned the next business day.

Date: March 8, 2023
Time: 6:00-8:30pm
Location: TBD