



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance

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Aldona Z. Vos, M.D.
Ambassador (Ret.)
Secretary DHHS

Robin Gary Cummings, M.D.
Deputy Secretary for Health Services
Director, Division of Medical Assistance

November 14, 2014

Dr. Aldona Vos
Secretary of Health and Human Services
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
101 Blair Drive
Raleigh, N.C. 27603

Dear Secretary Vos,

On behalf of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Preferred Drug List Review Panel, I am pleased to present our annual recommendations to you for the North Carolina Medicaid and Health Choice Preferred Drug List, (PDL). The following recommendations are from clinical reviews completed on November 4, 2014. The PDL will go into effect on January 2, 2015 after necessary preparations are made in NCTracks.

The panel reviewed drug classes on the proposed PDL that were reviewed and recommended by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee and the North Carolina Physician Advisory Group. The panel reviewed each drug class in which a decision was needed on preferred versus non-preferred status. Decisions were made with consideration given to the evidence-based data available for each drug class, the written comments received during two 45-day comment periods and the public comments received during the panel meeting. The public comment period was from September 19, 2014 to November 3, 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The panel recommended approval of the proposed North Carolina Medicaid and Health Choice Preferred Drug List with associated prior authorization criteria as posted during the public comment periods with the following changes:

1. ANTIPSYCHOTICS INJECTABLE

The panel approves the PDL proposal for ANTIPSYCHOTICS INJECTABLE with the following change:

- Move Abilify Maintena to preferred
- Allow trial and failure of only one preferred product before allowing a non-preferred product. PDL standard is to try and fail two preferred products.

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2. ANTIPSYCHOTICS ORAL

The panel approves the PDL proposal for ANTIPSYCHOTICS ORAL with the following change:

- Allow trial and failure of only one preferred product before allowing a non-preferred product. PDL standard is to try and fail two preferred products.

3. ANTIDEPRESSANTS – OTHER

The panel approves the PDL proposal for ANTIDEPRESSANTS – OTHER with the following change:

- Move nefazadone, generic for Serzone to non-preferred

4. OTIC ANTI-INFECTIVES AND ANESTHETICS

The panel approves the PDL proposal for OTIC ANTI-INFECTIVES AND ANESTHETICS with the following change:

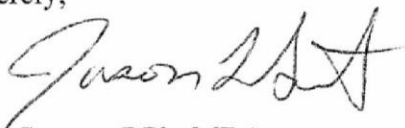
- This class will not have any changes due to it not being reviewed by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee

5. ESTROGEN COMBINATION AGENTS

The panel approves the PDL proposal for ESTROGEN COMBINATION AGENTS with the following change:

- This class will not have any changes due to it not being reviewed by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee

Sincerely,



Jason Swartz, RPh, MBA
Pharmacy Program Manager, Division of Medical Assistance

cc: Dr. Jonathan Weston, Representative for the Old North State Medical Society
Dr. Erin Dalton, Representative for the North Carolina Association of Pharmacists
Dr. Paul Bush, Representative for Hospital-Based Pharmacy
Dr. Holly Biola, Representative for Community Care of North Carolina
Dr. Burt Johnson, Representative for the North Carolina Psychiatric Association
Dr. Beat Steiner, Representative for the Physician Advisory Group Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
Dr. Andreas Maetzel, Representative for Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies
Dr. Steve Wegner, Representative for the North Carolina Pediatric Society
Dr. Robert (Chuck) Rich, Representative for the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians
Dr. Byron Hoffman, Representative for the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Physicians
Dr. Robin Cummings, Deputy Secretary for Health Services, Director, Division of Medical Assistance
Dr. Nancy Henley, Medical Director, Division of Medical Assistance

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