



Provider Issue Briefing

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Date: September 2020

Contra Costa Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T)

The CCHP P&T committee met on 9/3/2020. Updates from the meeting are outlined below:

****Changes to the PDL will be effective by mid-October 2020****

Updates/Announcements:

1. Fee-For-Service Medi-Cal Carve-Out (Medi-Cal Rx):

a. An excerpt from CA governor's Executive Order N-019-01 (dated 1/1/2019) states the following:
"IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

...The Department of Health Care Services shall take all necessary steps to transition all pharmacy services for Medi-Cal managed care to a fee-for-service benefit by January 2021 in order to create significant negotiating leverage on behalf of over 13 million Californians and generate substantial annual savings..."

b. What does this mean?

Effective 1/1/2021, CCHP will no longer manage the retail pharmacy benefit for Medi-Cal members.

c. CCHP will still manage the medical benefit for Medi-Cal members after 1/1/2021, and will also retain responsibility for care-coordination, inpatient drugs, long-term care drugs, physician administered drugs, etc. after the carve-out occurs. CCHP will also maintain responsibility for the entirety of the Commercial pharmacy & medical benefit.

d. DHCS is planning on educating/notifying providers and members of the change, and CCHP is planning some provider education and member outreach over the next few months as well. Please direct all questions to the CCHP pharmacy department at 925-957-7260 x1 or contact DHCS at RxCarveOut@dhcs.ca.gov

2. Provider Instructions to Prepare for Medi-Cal Rx:

The Department of Health Care Services Medi-Cal Rx transition of all administrative services related to Medi-Cal pharmacy benefits billed on pharmacy claims from the existing intermediaries, Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service (FFS) or Managed Care Plan (MCP) providers, to the new Medi-Cal Rx vendor, Magellan Medicaid Administration, Inc. (MMA), goes into effect January 1, 2021.

All Medi-Cal Rx providers, including pharmacies, prescribers, and their staff, will need to complete a registration process to access the Learning Management System (LMS), Saba. All education and outreach events will be posted in a calendar on the Saba LMS, and providers will have the ability to enroll in web-based instructor-led or computer-based training. The Saba LMS will be available starting on September 8, 2020. To access the Saba LMS, providers will need to utilize the User Administration Console (UAC) application—a registration tool that controls and manages the user's access to the Medi-Cal Rx Web Portal and associated applications—at [www.medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov]www.medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov.

For additional information regarding this transition, billing, and to Register for training please go to: <https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/education>

For any DHCS Medi-Cal Rx support prior to January 1, 2021, visit the Provider Portal on www.medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov or the Medi-Cal Rx Transition page on the [DHCS website](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov). For general questions related to Medi-Cal Rx, please send an email to RxCarveOut@dhcs.ca.gov.

Quick reference table for all changes to the Preferred Drug List (PDL) and/or Prior Authorization (PA) criteria (for full details of each change, please see individual drugs listed below this table):

<u>Changes Made</u>	<u>Drug Name</u>
Created new PA criteria:	Rukovia (fostemsavir) Nexletol (bempedoic acid) Nexlizet (bempedoic acid/ezetimibe)
Modified PA criteria:	Veltassa (patiromer)
ADDED to the CCHP formulary:	Lokelma (sodium zirconium cyclosilicate) Durezol (difluprednate) eye drops Propranolol ER capsules Budesonide EC 3 mg capsules

- **Creation of new criteria for Rukovia (fostemsavir):**
 - Prior authorization requests for Rukovia must meet the following criteria for approval:
 - Trial and failure of a previous antiviral therapy regimen
 - Criteria applies to commercial members as this is a fee for service carve out for Medi-Cal members
- **Creation of new criteria for Nexletol (bempedoic acid) & Nexlizet (bempedoic acid/ezetimibe):**
 - Prior authorization requests for the above agents must meet the following criteria for approval:
 - Diagnosis of familial hypercholesterolemia or ASCVD with LDL>70
 - Trial and failure or intolerance to high intensity statin (atorvastatin, rosuvastatin) for 3 months AND ezetimibe
- **Modification of criteria for Veltassa (patiromer):**
 - Added to the CCHP formulary as a tier 2 product with Lokelma step therapy. Quantity limit of 30 packets per 30 days.
- **Addition of Lokelma (sodium zirconium cyclosilicate) to the CCHP formulary:**
 - Has been added to the CCHP formulary as a tier 2 product with a quantity limit of 34 packets per 30 days.
- **Addition of Durezol (difluprednate) eye drops to the CCHP formulary:**
 - Added to the CCHP formulary as a tier 2 product with prednisolone acetate 1% eye drops step therapy.
- **Addition of Propranolol ER capsules to the CCHP formulary:**
 - All strengths of propranolol ER capsules have been added to the CCHP formulary as tier 1 medications without restriction.
- **Addition of Budesonide EC 3 mg capsules to the CCHP formulary:**
 - Has been added to the CCHP formulary as a tier 2 medication with a quantity limit of 90 capsules per 30 days.

There are numerous ways to view the CCHP Preferred Drug List:

CCHP updates the Preferred Drug List (PDL) after each quarterly Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee meeting. CCHP invites and encourages practitioners to access each update through the following means:

- An interactive searchable formulary is available within Epic (contact the Epic team with any questions related to functionality).
- A printable copy of the CCHP PDL can be found here: <http://cchealth.org/healthplan/pdf/pdl.pdf>
- A searchable copy of the CCHP PDL can be found here: <http://formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteID=MMRREQ3QBC>
- **EPOCRATES – free mobile & online formulary resource**
 - CCHP providers may add the CCHP formulary to their mobile devices using the following steps:
 - Open the Epocrates application on your mobile device.
 - Click on the “formulary” button on the home screen.



- Click “add new formulary” button on the bottom of the screen.
- Use the search box to locate “Contra Costa Health Plan” Medi-Cal or Commercial formulary. Click on each formulary that you would like to add, and then click the “add formulary” button.

Epocrates mobile is supported on the iOS (iPhone, iTouch, iPad), Android, & BlackBerry platforms

If you have any questions about the installation or use of Epocrates, please contact Epocrates Customer Support at goldsupport@epocrates.com or at (800)230-2150.

Providers may request a copy of CCHP pharmacy management procedures or specific drug PA criteria by contacting the pharmacy unit directly at 925-957-7260 x1, or via the email listed below:

P&T updates and DUR educational bulletins can be viewed online at
<http://cchealth.org/healthplan/provider-pharmacy-therapeutics.php>

Questions and comments may be directed to CCHP Pharmacy by emailing
joseph.cardinalli@cchealth.org
