



# Provider Issue Briefing

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

The CCHP P&T committee met on 9/24/2021. Updates from the meeting are outlined below:

**\*\*Changes to the PDL will be effective by mid-November 2021\*\***

### Updates/Announcements:

- Fee-For-Service Medi-Cal Carve-Out (Medi-Cal Rx) will begin January 1, 2022:  
Medi-Cal Rx is the administration of the Medi-Cal Pharmacy Benefits through the fee-for service delivery system. Medi-Cal Rx implementation will begin on January 1, 2022. CCHP encourages providers and pharmacies to register now. Please go to the DHCS Medi-Cal Rx website at <https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/> or call 800-977-2273 for more details.
- Medi-Cal Rx Provider Training Webinar Posted on CCHP Website  
On October 21, 2021, Magellan recorded a webinar called "Medi-Cal Rx 101" as a training for CCHP providers. The presentation slide deck and a recording of the webinar are posted on the CCHP web page. Please contact CCHP pharmacy department at (925) 957-7260 for any questions.
- Ivermectin Not Approved by the FDA for Preventing and/or Treating COVID-19  
Recent reports from the CDC and FDA have noted potentially inappropriate prescribing, as well as patient self-medication, of the drug ivermectin for preventing and/or treating COVID-19. Ivermectin has not been approved, nor received Emergency Use Authorization, by the FDA for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 and has therefore not been deemed safe or effective for this indication.

### 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:	Belsomra (suvorexant) tablets Rocklatan (netarsudil/latanoprost) eye drops Albendazole tablets
Modified PA criteria:	Cialis (tadalafil) 5 mg tablets Diclofenac 1% gel quantity limit increased
ADDED to the CCHP formulary:	Airzone Peak Flow Meter Asthma Check Peak Flow Meter Peak Air Peak Flow Meter Pocket Peak Flow Meter
Removed from CCHP formulary:	Alosetron tablet Lactulose 10 gram oral packet Kristalose 20 gram oral packet

- Newly Established criteria for Belsomra (suvorexant):** For Belsomra, requires a trial and failure or found to be intolerant to the first line preferred agents, zolpidem, zaleplon and eszopiclone AND preferred second line agent zolpidem ER.

- **Newly Established criteria for Rocklatan (netarsudil/latanoprost):** requires a trial and failure to at least 2 other formulary medications used for reducing IOP such as latanoprost, timolol, brimonidine, pilocarpine or dozolamide
- **Newly Established criteria for albendazole tablets:** For treatment of pinworm, requires a trial and failure of an OTC pyrantel pamoate product such as Reese’s Pinoworm or Pin-X
- **Modification of criteria for Cialis (tadalafil) 5 mg tablets:** removal of the requirement that Cialis 5 mg tablets be written by a urology provider
- **Modification of criteria for diclofenac 1% topical gel:** increased the quantity limit for diclofenac 1% topical gel to 300 gm per 30 days

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**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](mailto:goldsupport@epocrates.com) or at (800)230-2150.

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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:

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

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Questions and comments may be directed to CCHP Pharmacy by emailing [joseph.cardinalli@cchealth.org](mailto:joseph.cardinalli@cchealth.org)

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