

PROVIDER Update



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Medication Trends and Formulary Changes – 4th Quarter 2018

Review information on the CURES mandate, new fluoroquinolones label warnings and quarterly recommended drug list changes

This update includes information regarding the mandatory use of California's Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES), new risks on taking fluoroquinolones and changes to the CalViva Health formulary for the fourth quarter of 2018.

CURES CONSULTATION MANDATE

To improve opioid prescribing practices and reduce the risk of opioid use disorders (OUD), mandatory consultation of CURES became effective October 2, 2018. This mandate applies to:

- Any health care practitioner with both a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Controlled Substance Registration Certificate and a California licensure as any one of the following:
 - Dentist, physician, naturopathic doctor, optometrist, osteopathic doctor, physician assistant, podiatrist, registered certified nurse midwife (furnishing), and registered nurse practitioner (furnishing).
- This requirement does not apply to veterinarians or pharmacists.

Health care practitioners must consult the CURES database to review a patient's controlled substance history before prescribing, ordering, administering, or furnishing a Schedule II–IV controlled substance for the first time and at least once every four months when the controlled substance is part of a continued treatment plan.

For more information and exemptions, refer to <https://oag.ca.gov/cures> or contact the CURES Program at CURES@doj.ca.gov or (916) 210-3187.

FLUOROQUINOLONES ANTIBIOTICS LABEL WARNING UPDATES

In July 2018, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) required new safety labeling changes for a class of antibiotics called fluoroquinolones based on a comprehensive review of the FDA's adverse event reports and case reports published in medical literature. The labeling changes are to increase awareness about the risks of mental health side effects, serious blood sugar disturbances, and to make the warnings on labels more consistent for all fluoroquinolones taken by mouth or given by injection.¹

¹ U.S. Food & Drug Administration at www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm612995.htm.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO MEDI-CAL PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

PROVIDER SERVICES

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FLUOROQUINOLONES ANTIBIOTICS LABEL WARNING UPDATES, continued

- Labeling changes of the fluoroquinolone class require listing mental health side effects separately from other central nervous system side effects. The side effects include disturbances in attention, disorientation, agitation, nervousness, memory impairment, and delirium.
- The potential risk of coma with hypoglycemia must now be included on the fluoroquinolone class labeling under the Blood Glucose Disturbances subsection due to instances found among users.

Health care providers and patients should consider all risks and benefits of fluoroquinolones and make an informed decision about their use. Remind patients to read the Medication Guide insert that comes with each fluoroquinolone prescription describing the safety issues associated with these medicines.

CALVIVA HEALTH FORMULARY CHANGES

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee, which includes practicing physicians, pharmacists and other health care professionals, reviews the medications on the CalViva Health formulary each quarter to determine which medications should remain on the formulary and which should be moved to a different status. A list of some recent changes is provided in the table below. The list contains prescription medications, their status, alternatives, and comments for the fourth quarter of 2018.

The complete CalViva Health formulary and other pharmacy-related provider updates, revised prior authorization criteria and pharmacy forms are available at provider.healthnet.com under *Pharmacy Information*.

Medication	Status	Formulary Alternative(s)	Comments
ORAL MEDICATIONS			
Benznidazole tablet	NF		Treatment of Chagas disease (American trypanosomiasis), caused by <i>Trypanosoma cruzi</i> (T. cruzi) in pediatric patients ages 2 to 12
Solosec™ (secnidazole) oral granules	NF	Vaginal preparations: clindamycin (Cleocin®), metronidazole (MetroGel Vaginal®, Vandazole®), Clindesse® Oral preparations: metronidazole (Flagyl®)	Treatment of bacterial vaginosis in adult women
Steglatro™ (ertugliflozin) tablet	F QL, EST	metformin, glyburide, glipizide, Jardiance®,*** Invokana®**	An adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus Quantity limit is 1 tablet per day Step therapy requires a trial of metformin first
Symdeko® (tezacaftor/ ivacaftor; ivacaftor) tablet	F *, **	Orkambi®*, **	Treatment of patients with cystic fibrosis ages 12 and older who are homozygous for the F508del mutation or who have at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is responsive to tezacaftor/ ivacaftor based on in vitro data and/or clinical evidence

Medication	Status	Formulary Alternative(s)	Comments
Tavalisse™ (fostamatinib) tablet	NF	dexamethasone, prednisone	Treatment of thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) who have had an insufficient response to a previous treatment

OPHTHALMIC PREPARATIONS

Rhopressa® (netarsudil) ophthalmic solution	NF	latanoprost (Xalatan®), timolol (Timoptic®), brimonidine (Alphagan® P), dorzolamide (Trusopt®)	Reduction of elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension
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INJECTABLE PREPARATIONS

Crysvita® (burosumab) single-dose vial	Medical benefit *	calcitriol (Rocaltrol®), oral phosphate agent (K-Phos,® K-Phos Neutral®)	Treatment of X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH) in adult and pediatric patients ages 1 and older
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*Prior authorization (PA) is required to verify member eligibility and that the member satisfies clinical protocols to ensure appropriate use of the medication.

**CCS = California Children's Services: refer to www.dhs.ca.gov for the local telephone number to determine member's coverage eligibility.

- F indicates formulary.
- NF indicates nonformulary. These medications require member-specific medical reasons why formulary medications cannot be considered. Requests are reviewed via the medical plan's prior authorization process.
- QL indicates quantity limit.
- EST indicates electronic step therapy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information regarding the CalViva Health formulary, contact the pharmacy department by telephone at 1-800-867-6564, press option #2, or by fax at 1-800-977-8226. For all other questions, contact CalViva Health at 1-888-893-1569.