

ANNOUNCEMENT

In our ongoing effort to assist you in maximizing your health care investment while offering your plan participants clinically appropriate prescription therapy, we are announcing changes to the CVS Caremark Prescribing Guide (PG, aka formulary) and Performance Drug List (PDL) effective April 1, 2017. The review process focused on many factors, including the following:

- Adding products that have demonstrated enhanced clinical efficacy and/or provide more convenient dosage forms;
- Removing products that may require less convenient therapy/dosage, have more side effects, or may cost more when compared to available options on the CVS Caremark drug list.

We anticipate that the overall impact to your members will be minimal and should result in few disruptions as a result of these changes. Most of the changes are additions, with most of the deletions due to generic availability. There is only one brand, without a generic, changing from tier 2 to tier 3 this quarter: Arcapta neohaler.

Note this is the first quarter with Hyperinflationary drug removals (exclusions). The majority of these are multi-source brands: the brand will be excluded while the generic will remain covered. These are listed under 'Removals' on the Change Summary document. They are also reflected on the April 2017 Formulary Drug Removals document.

For *Advance Control Specialty Formulary (ACSF)* there are only minor changes that should not cause any member impact. In the Endocrine/Metabolic Category – Somavert is being added and Sandostatin LAR is being removed/excluded. However, Sandostatin LAR is being “grandfathered” so there won't be any impact.

Plan participants who will experience a negative impact will have received targeted advance written notifications of the changes to give them an opportunity to discuss therapeutic alternatives with their physicians as clinically appropriate.

Attached are: Performance Drug List; Advanced Control Specialty Formulary; Formulary Drug Removals; and, PDL Change Summary. Note: on the attached Change Detail Report, 'DELETIONS' means deleted from the PDL and may result in a tier change but are still covered. 'REMOVALS' mean removed/excluded from the Formulary and not covered.

Please encourage your plan participants to use the Caremark Web site, www.caremark.com, to view the most current version of the drug list, as well as to review their prescription drug benefit information, request mail service orders and research drug information.

We appreciate the opportunity to service your prescription benefit needs. Thank you.

 **Employee Plans**

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