

Volume 12, Issue 2
February 2014 - April

Pharmacy Benefits Management- Medical Advisory Panel- VISN Pharmacist Executives E_z - MINUTES

Watch for the next issue of Ez-Minutes August 5th, 2014

See us at: <http://www.pbm.va.gov/> or <https://vaww.cmopnational.va.gov/cmop/PBM/default.aspx>.

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The purpose of the PBM-MAP-VPE Ez-Minutes Newsletter is to communicate with the field on items which will impact clinical practice in the VA.

Posting of National PBM Documents February 2014 -April 2014

Formulary Decisions

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[Next PBM Webinar: What's Up, Hepatitis C? May 20th, 2014 @ 3 ET](#)

[Naloxone Kits on VA National Formulary](#)

NOW AVAILABLE!

[Updated VA/DoD Clinical Practice on the Management of Obesity and Overweight](#)

Added to the VA National Formulary (VANF)

- Brinzolamide/brimonidine ophthalmic suspension
- Naloxone rescue kits (Intramuscular and Intranasal)
- Oxcarbazepine-restricted to neurology or other seizure experts
- Simeprevir
- Sofosbuvir
- Zonisamide -restricted to neurology or other seizure experts

Criteria for Use (CFU)

- [Anticoagulants, Target Specific Oral \(TSOACs\) CFU and Algorithm](#)
- [Dimethyl Fumarate](#) [Updated, March 2014]
- [DMARDs for Rheumatoid Arthritis \(Anti-TNF DMARDs\)](#)
- [ESA for HCV related anemia](#) [Updated March, 2014]
- [Filgrastim for HCV related neutropenia](#) [Updated March, 2014]
- [Lomitapide](#)
- [Lorcaserin](#) [Updated, Feb. 2014]
- [Natalizumab](#) [Updated, March 2014]
- [Omega-3 Acid Ethyl Esters and Icosapent Ethyl](#) [Updated, March 2014]
- [Simeprevir](#)
- [Sofosbuvir](#)
- [Ticagrelor](#)

Drug Class Review

- [DMARDs for Rheumatoid Arthritis \(Anti-TNF DMARD\) Update](#)

Not added to the National Formulary (VANF)

- Clobazam
- Ethinyl Estradiol-Levonorgestrel and Ethinyl Estradiol
- Ferric Carboxymaltose
- Icosapent Ethyl
- Lomitapide
- Levomilnacipran
- Ticagrelor
- Tofacitinib
- Vortioxetine

Clinical Recommendations

- [Angiotensin II Receptor Antagonists, Clinical Recommendations](#) [Updated, Feb. 2014]
- [Anticoagulants, Target Specific Oral \(TSOACs\) Oversight and Monitoring Guidance](#) - (*INTRAnet only*) [Updated, Feb. 2014]
- [Antiseizure Agent Selection](#)
- [Interim Recommendations for Managing Dyslipidemia- Cardiovascular Risk in Veteran Patients](#)

Abbreviated Review

- [Brinzolamide-brimonidine ophthalmic suspension](#)
- [Ethinyl Estradiol-Levonorgestrel and Ethinyl Estradiol](#)
- [Glatiramer Acetate three times weekly](#)

Therapeutic Interchange Guidance

- [Eye Vitamin AREDS2 and Peanut Oil](#)

Removed from the National Formulary

- Prenatal/vitamins plus/BOCA
- Granulex spray

Drug Monograph

- [Armodafinil](#) [Updated, March 2014]
- [Clobazam](#)
- [Ferric Carboxymaltose](#)
- [Icosapent Ethyl](#)
- [Ingenol Mebutate Gel](#)
- [Lomitapide](#)
- [Levomilnacipran](#)
- [Simeprevir](#)
- [Sofosbuvir](#)
- [Ticagrelor](#)
- [Tofacitinib](#)
- [Vortioxetine](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Metronidazole 0.75% Cream, Top has been changed to Metronidazole Cream Top on the VA National Formulary (the "0.75%" has been removed).
- Three documents were archived:
 - Interim Considerations for Sofosbuvir and Simeprevir
 - Recommendations for Use: PEG/ribavirin with boceprevir or telaprevir
 - Fluoroquinolone CFU
- Sites are now allowed to use any of the available hyaluronidase products.
- PresserVision with Lutein was removed from while Sancillo PNV Prenatal plus Multivitamin was added to the [VA Drug Standardization List](#).
- RSS Feed is available to subscribe to the Ez Minutes. Check it out! <http://www.pbm.va.gov/PBM/linksotherresources/PBMMAPVPEzMinutes.asp>

Posting of VAMedSAFE Documents Feb. 2013-April 2014



VA Center for Medication Safety

National PBM Bulletins	National PBM Communication
Testosterone Products and Cardiovascular Safety [February 7, 2014]	Effexor and Venlafaxine Recall for Possible Presence of Tikosyn Capsules [March 10, 2014]
Saxagliptin and Cardiovascular Safety [February 18, 2014]	Alli (orlistat) Recall Due to Product Tampering [April 4, 2014]

Pharmacy-Prosthetics-Logistics and Acquisitions (PPLA)* Workgroup

The table below depicts the various products reviewed during January- March 2014 meetings. The X marks which service(s) is responsible for managing the respective products. Please click [HERE](#) for further details and decisions made from earlier meetings.

**The PPLA workgroup was created to help clarify the responsibility for management (e.g., ordering, storing, purchasing, and/or dispensing) of those products in which it is not clear which service should provide. The workgroup is not responsible for determining formulary status, clinical merit, or appropriate use of the products reviewed.*

Products	Pharmacy+	Prosthetics+	Logistics and Acquisitions+
Lotions/powders/ointments for amputees (Sites to determine suitable product(s) to be used)	X (outpatient)		X (inpatient or clinic use)
Bone Putty		X	
Zzoma		X	
Acetic Acid 5%			X (inpatient or for clinic use)

+ Contingent upon approval from VISN or local Clinical Products Review Committee (CPRC). Implementation of these recommendations should be coordinated between services at local sites to ensure a smooth transition if recommendations lead to a change in responsible service. If you have any questions related to this announcement, please contact the responsible local service (Pharmacy, Prosthetics, or Logistics) for more detailed information.

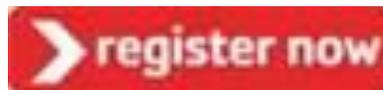
[Next PBM Webinar: May 20th, 2014 @ 3 PM ET: What's New, Hepatitis C?](#)

OBJECTIVES

1. identify Veterans with hepatitis C virus (HCV) in whom more urgent therapy may be indicated
2. describe the indications and place in therapy of sofosbuvir and simeprevir containing regimens
3. develop strategies in monitoring virologic response and adverse events in patients receiving HCV therapy

1-800-767-1750 Access Code 49792#

Accreditation: ACPE, ANCC, ACCME



Submit any questions/issues you would like addressed about Hepatitis C in advance to Janet.Dailey@va.gov.
Check the [PBM Education Calendar](#) for posting of other education and training programs!

FACULTY

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PBM-EDUCATION
NATIONAL PHARMACY BENEFITS MANAGEMENT

Naloxone Kits on VA National Formulary

Naloxone kits for intramuscular and intranasal administration were added to the VA National Formulary on March 27, 2014. The naloxone kits are intended for reversing serious opioid overdoses as part of the VA Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) program. A National Drug File entry exists for the intramuscular and intranasal naloxone kits. Draft Recommendations For Use (RFU) of the naloxone kits will be reviewed at the June 2014 VISN Pharmacist Executive (VPE)/Medical Advisory Panel (MAP) meeting. After the committee approves the naloxone kit RFU, the RFU will be disseminated and posted on the Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) Services intranet site. Educational materials about Opioid Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution are available at: [OEND Educational Materials](#). It is important for providers to train patients on proper naloxone administration technique and how to prevent, recognize, and respond to a serious opioid overdose (i.e., call 911, administer naloxone, give cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Additional training resources are in development with Employee Education System (EES) and will be announced when available.

The Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP) has limited stock available of both the intranasal and intramuscular naloxone kits and is ready to start accepting prescriptions for the naloxone kits to be mailed to patients.* Please encourage prescribers to initially target selected patients at increased risk for opioid overdose (e.g., patients with substance use disorder and injection drug users) because some components of the kits are in short supply. The RFU for the naloxone kits will NOT recommend making refills available for the prescription. Patients should be referred to their provider for evaluation prior to another prescription for a naloxone kit being prescribed and dispensed.

Please use the link below to request naloxone kits to be mailed directly to your medical center for demonstration/training purposes.

(*NOTE: Further instructions will be provided to medical centers on how to order kits from CMOP for dispensing kits from local VA pharmacies).

Submitted by: Tom Emmendorfer, PharmD-Deputy Chief Consultant and Francine Goodman, PharmD, BCPS-National PBM Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager

[Naloxone Rescue Kits Ordering Page](#)

Kit Components are detailed below; a photo of each kit is attached for reference.

Components	Quantity
Naloxone 0.4 mg/ml vials:	2
Syringe 3mL with 1-inch 25G needle	2
Alcohol swabs	2
Laerdal face shield CPR barrier or equivalent	1
Gloves	1 pair
Instructions	1
Opioid Safety Brochure	1
Zippered pouch	1

Intramuscular Kit



Components	Quantity
Naloxone 1 mg/ml (2mL) prefilled needleless	2
Mucosal Atomizer Device (MAD 300)	2
Laerdal face shield CPR barrier or equivalent	1
Gloves	1 pair
Instructions	1
Opioid Safety Brochure	1
Zippered pouch	1

Intranasal Kit

