**Editor's Note:** The purpose of the PBM-MAP-VPE Ez-Minutes Newsletter is to communicate with the field on items that will impact clinical practice in the VA.

Thanks for your feedback and most recently from Jim Drozd from Connecticut HCS requesting changing the format of Ez-Minutes to a more printer friendly format. Let me know if this works for you.

Please send all feedback/comments to Janet.Dailey@va.gov with Ez-Minutes in the subject line.

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**Inside This Issue**

- **Posting of National PBM Documents** February - April 2013
- **Posting of VAMedSAFE Documents** February - April 2013
- **Pharmacy-Prosthetics-Logistics and Acquisitions (PPLA) Workgroup**
- **Drug Standardization List**
- **Special Handling Drugs**
- **PBM-MAP-VPE Educational and Training**

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### Postiong of National PBM Documents February - April 2013

#### Formulary Decisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Added to the VA National Formulary (VANF)</th>
<th>Not added to the National Formulary (VANF)</th>
<th>Removed from the National Formulary (VANF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Disposable nursing pads</td>
<td>• Ivermectin 0.5% Topical Lotion</td>
<td>• Acthar Gel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Famotidine tablets</td>
<td>• Peginesatide</td>
<td>• Cimetidine tablets, injection, and oral liquid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fish oil</td>
<td>• Phentermine Topiramte</td>
<td>• Dipyridamole IR tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lanolin cream</td>
<td>• Provent</td>
<td>(appropriate patients may be grandfathered in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Medipore wound care product</td>
<td>• Teriflunomide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Meropenem</td>
<td>• Ziv-afibercept</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pneumococcal 13 valent conjugate vaccine [Restricted to CFU]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ranitidine oral liquid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tegaderm wound care product</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Criteria for Use

- Boceprevir [Updated March, 2013]
- Buprenorphine Sublingual [Updated March, 2013, Revised April, 2013]
- Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agent CFU for Hepatitis C treatment related anemia [Updated March, 2013]
- Pneumococcal 13 valent conjugate vaccine
- Phentermine Topiramte
- Provent
- Teriflunomide
- ziv-afibercept

#### Clinical Recommendations

- Antiretroviral Regimens in HIV-infected Treatment-naive Veterans [Updated March, 2013]
- Peginterferon alpha and ribavirin in combination with Direct Acting Antivirals [Updated March, 2013]
- Primary Care Outpatient Algorithm: Treatment of Insomnia (Acute-Chronic) Algorithm in Primary Care Outpatient, Guidance for Treatment of Insomnia in Primary Care Setting, zolpidem IR Guidance for Use [Updated March, 2013]

#### Drug Monograph

- Ivermectin 0.5% Topical Lotion
- Peginesatide
- Phentermine Topiramte
- Pneumococcal 13 valent conjugate vaccine
- Provent
- Teriflunomide
- ziv-afibercept

#### Patient and Provider Letters

- Amiodarone, Patient Letter
- Amiodarone, Provider Letter
- ACEI ARB Combination, Patient Letter
- ACEI ARB Combination, Provider Letter

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*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.

**Posting of VAMedSAFE Documents Febr-April 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National PBM Bulletins</th>
<th>National PBM Communication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sodium Phosphate Enema and Fatal Outcome [March, 2013]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Renin-Angiotensin Aldosterone System Blockade and Impaired Renal Function and Hyperkalemia [February, 2013]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

The table below depicts the various products reviewed during February and March, 2013 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Pharmacy</th>
<th>Prosthetics</th>
<th>Logistics and Acquisitions+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breath NIOV Ventilations System (and other home oxygen systems)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X (for home use)</td>
<td>X (inpatients)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CellerateRX</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaptite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Lenses (durable or disposable)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam boots for MS patients</td>
<td>X (outpatients)</td>
<td>X (inpatients)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nipple Shields Guards</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic Alert Jewelry</td>
<td>X (outpatients)</td>
<td>X (inpatients)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyvinyl alcohol foam particles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitzamarks</td>
<td>X (outpatient)</td>
<td>X (inpatients)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgiwrap</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theramist P30000N</td>
<td>X (provide sterile water bottles for outpatients)</td>
<td>X (sterile water bottles for inpatients)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Drug Standardization List-NEW!**

There is no longer a Do Not Substitute List. The new name is Drug Standardization List. The Drug Standardization List is a list of pharmaceutical products for which substitution is not permitted under normal circumstances. The intent is to provide Veterans with a consistent and reliable product for drugs where interchange may compromise therapeutic response or patient safety. The list can be found on the PBM website under the National Formulary folder. See link below.

Special Handling Drugs

From time to time, questions arise how to order "special handling" drugs. Ordering instructions are located on the National PBM website. Click below to go to the site.

CLICK HERE

Do you know there are currently 82 medications listed as "Special Handling Drugs" on the PBM Website?

SAVE-THE-DATE Monthly PBM-MAP-VPE Webinars

- Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 3 PM EST
- Live Meeting with VANTs 1-800-767-1750 Access Code: 49792#
- Accreditation available for May’s program: ACPE, ACPE-T
- Upcoming Webinar: May 21, 2013 @ 3 PM
  - May is the Medication Reconciliation Month so a program dedicated to Medication Reconciliation 2013 will be featured. An extra bonus feature will be a presentation about Chronic Disease Management on the National PBM Education Moodle Site
  - Faculty:
    - Maureen Layden, MD, MPH
      Director, VA Medication Reconciliation/ Patient Medication Information Management Initiative
      Pharmacy Benefits Management
      VA Central Office
      Washington, DC
      
      AND
    - Katherine Werner, PharmD, CDE, CACP, CGP, VH-CM
      Clinical Pharmacy Coordinator & Clinical Pharmacist
      Portland VA Medical Center

Future educational/training Program details are posted to: National PBM Education SharePoint site