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Updated: Free Naloxone Kit Initiative
Updated: 3 Prior Authorization Categories on the VANF
Prior authorization-National (PA-N) Refers to medications that are formulary but require prior approval at the national level before dispensing. (It is used to ensure that the medication is appropriate for each individual Veteran). Examples: Iomitapide, ziv-afiibercept
Prior authorization-VISN (PA-V) Refers to medications that are formulary but require prior approval at the VISN level before dispensing.
Prior authorization-Facility (PA-F) Refers to medications that are formulary but require prior approval at the facility level before dispensing.

Please click HERE to read 7/25/14 DUSHOM memo on IFC (Inter-facility Consult) Implementation for National Prior Authorization Medication.


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

Please Welcome Two New National PBM Employees: Michael O. Chaffman, PharmD, BCPS National PBM Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager and Matthew Lechtenberg, PharmD, BCPS Pharmacist Program Manager (Pharmaceconomics)

Posting of National PBM Documents August 2014 –October 2014

Formulary Decisions

Added to the VA National Formulary (VANF)
- Amlodipine/Benazepril fixed-dose combination
- Calcium citrate tablets
- Escitalopram tablets
- Oral Live Ty21a Typhoid Vaccine
- Tranexamic Acid-Use in Orthopedic Surgery (Formulary status pending development of protocol/CFU in collaboration with orthopedic surgery)
- Ziv-afiibercept

Not added to the National Formulary (VANF)
- Buprenorphine/Naloxone Buccal Film (BUNAVAIL)
- Dapagliflozin (Farxiga)
- Diclofenac Sodium 3% Gel, AB-rated generic SOLARAZE
- Droxtep Low-Dose (Silenor)
- Econazole Topical Foam
- Ibrunlitib
- Methotrexate Autoinjectors (OTREXUP and RASIVO)
- Ofatumumab
- Suferocenty Oxhydroxydine
- Tacrolimus XL (Astagraf XL)

Removed from the National Formulary (VANF)
- Boceprevir
- Telaprevir

Drug Monograph
- Dapagliflozin (Farxiga)
- Droxtep Low-Dose (Silenor)
- Ibrunlitib [Updated Aug. 2014]
- Ofatumumab [Updated Aug. 2014]
- Ulpirstal Acelate (ela) Drug Monograph
- Suferocenty Oxhydroxydine

Abbreviated Review
- Buprenorphine / Naloxone Buccal Film (BUNAVAIL)
- Econazole Topical Foam
- Tacrolimus XL (Astagraf XL)
- Tranexamic Acid-Use in Orthopedic Surgery

Recommendations for Use (RFU)
- Naloxone Kics, Recommendations for Use (Rev Sep 2014) – the word "prioritization" was changed to "identification"

Guidance/Clinical Recommendations
- BCG Shortage
- Insomnia Management Updates and Nonpharmacological VA Resources

Patient and Provider Letters [InTRAneT only]
- Hydrocodone Combinations C-II - Patient Letter
- Hydrocodone Combinations C-II - Provixter I etter

DID YOU KNOW?
- The following document(s) were archived: Lubiprostone, CFU; Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitor CFU & Evidence Summary: Update; Memantine CFU & Evidence Summary: Update; Cholinesterase Inhibitor Drug Class Review; Boceprevir & Telaprevir CFU; coformulated fixed dose product elvitegravir/cobicistat/tenofovir/emtricitabine CFU; Antiretroviral Regimens in HIV-infected Treatment-naive Veterans Recommendations for Use; Montelukast CFU; Buprenorphine Sublingual CFU Sep 2014; Naloxone OEND RFU Sep 2014; Checkbox format of RFU of Newer Gram-Positives Agents
- Tramadol C-IV Patient Letter for MHV is posted to the PBM INTERnet site only and linked with My HealthVet (MHV). Online visitors to MHV can view this letter. If not logged on, one can see the tramadol alert on the Pharmacy landing page.
- For HIV preexposure prophylaxis, restrict emtricitabine/tenofovir to the US Public Health Service clinical practice guidelines for PrEP.
Pharmacy-Prosthetics-Logistics (PPL)* Workgroup

The table below depicts the various products reviewed during July and Sept. 2014 meetings. The X marks which service(s) is responsible for managing the respective products. Please click HERE for previous recommendations and minutes made from earlier meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Pharmacy+</th>
<th>Prosthetics+</th>
<th>Logistics+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allowash XG Sterilized Allograph Bio Implant</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto-injector Devices</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>(outpatients)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BioGlue Surgical Adhesive</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deflux</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposable Pumps (filled in the hospital or specialty clinic)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water for clinic use</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lactose (for lactose intolerance testing)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methylene Blue</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitz baths</td>
<td>X (outpatients)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>(inpatient or clinic use)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washable nursing pads</td>
<td>X (outpatient)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zio-Patch (alternative to Holter monitor)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.

Free Naloxone Kit Initiative

VA is actively engaged in promoting safe and effective practices in the management of pain. Partnering with Veterans, VA is focused on exploring all options to manage chronic pain. In an effort to prevent fatal and non-fatal opioid overdoses, VA is offering opioid overdose education and naloxone (kit) distribution (OEND) to at risk Veterans. To make these kits accessible to Veterans in need of them, as of August 4th, 2014, the Pharmacy Benefits Management (PBM) deployed the Free-to-Facilities Naloxone Kit Initiative allowing naloxone kits to be provided at no cost to facilities (standard Veteran co-payment rules apply to the kits). The initiative has the potential to provide up to 28,000 kits to VA patients. For additional information if needed, please contact your VISN Pharmacist Executive (VPE).

UPDATE: As of October 31, 2014, the VA Consolidated Mail Out Pharmacy (CMOP) has dispensed 4902 Naloxone Kits and there have been 11 reported opioid overdose reversals. There are 4500 kits remaining and sufficient supplies have been secured to make an additional 3240 kits. There are no maximum order quantities for medical centers placing orders with CMOP. Sites can now order as many kits as are needed to support local dispensing. Funding from PBM has been made available to cover the cost of CMOP prepared naloxone rescue kits. Order naloxone rescue kits from CMOP for local use. Naloxone Rescue Kits Ordering Page

Resources and technical assistance for OEND implementation is available at the VA National OEND SharePoint Site: https://vaww.portal2.va.gov/sites/mentalhealth/OEND/default.aspx

CLICK to Read the Informational Letter: IMPLEMENTATION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE EDUCATION AND NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION (OEND) TO REDUCE RISK OF OPIOID-RELATED DEATH

Listen to the taped October 21st, 2014 PBM Webinar on Naloxone Kit HERE. Faculty: Drs. Elizabeth Oliva, Francine Goodman, and Robert Sproul.

NEXT PBM Webinar: November 18, 2014 @ 3 PM

November PBM Webinar will either be a repeat of Oct. Webinar (Naloxone Kit) with accreditation for those that missed it… or Concomitant Use of BZDs with Opioids with Dr. Sproul!

Look for details on PBM Education SharePoint in the near future.

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