

PHARMACY FACTS

Program Updates from Louisiana Medicaid

March 1, 2019

Single PDL letters regarding prior authorization mailed to members, providers

In preparation for implementing the single preferred drug list (PDL) on May 1, 2019, managed care organizations (MCOs) have mailed letters to members and providers to notify them of any negative changes (i.e., a medication changing from preferred to non-preferred status).

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has directed the MCOs that some classes of drugs will be “grandfathered.” This will allow a current prior authorization (PA) to expire instead of being terminated on April 30, 2019. Additional letters will be sent as allowed PAs expire.

Classes of drugs to allow PA to expire include:

- Alzheimer’s agents
- Antipsychotic agents
- Agents to treat Depression
 - Antidepressants, other
 - SSRIs
- Agents to treat Digestive disorders
 - Bile acid salts
 - Pancreatic enzymes
 - Ulcerative colitis agents
- Angiotensin receptor antagonist/neprilysin inhibitor (Entresto)
- Anticoagulants-platelet aggregation inhibitors
- Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)
- Hemodialysis-pituitary suppressive agents
- Immunosuppressives, oral
- Hepatitis C agents
 - Direct acting agents
 - Non-direct acting agents
- Ophthalmic disorders
 - Glaucoma agents
 - Intraocular pressure reducers
- Parkinson’s Disease: anti-Parkinson agents – anticholinergic and other
- Antivirals, oral
- Hemophilia
- Oncology (all)

Additional clarifications are forthcoming. More background on the single PDL can be found in previous editions of [Pharmacy Facts](#).

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Clarification on MCO coverage for acne, cough and cold medicines

Effective May 1, 2019, MCOs will be required to cover only what [fee-for-service Medicaid](#) covers for acne and cough and cold medicines.