IOWA MEDICAID DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW COMMISSION

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DUR Director, (515) 725-1271

May 7, 2009

Susan L. Parker, R.Ph., Pharm.D.
Pharmacy Director
Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
100 Army Post Road
Des Moines, Iowa 50315

Dear Susan:

The Iowa Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Commission met on Wednesday, May 6, 2009. At this meeting, the DUR Commission members discussed the Modified Formulations Prior Authorization Criteria for a second time, OTC *MiraLax,* and *Trilipix*. The following recommendations have been made by the DUR Commission:

Since no comments were received from medical associations or the Iowa Pharmacy Association in response to a March 5th letter that was sent to them detailing the proposed Modified Formulations criteria, the DUR Commission recommends the following criteria be considered for implementation:

Modified Formulations:

Newly Proposed Criteria: Payment for a non-preferred isomer, pro-drug, metabolite, and/or alternative delivery system will only be considered for cases in which there is documentation of a recent trial and therapy failure with the original parent drug product of the same chemical entity, unless evidence is provided that use of the original product would be medically contraindicated.

Prior authorization is required for the following modified formulations: Abilify Discmelt®, Invega®, Pristiq™, Risperdal® M-Tab®, and Zyprexa® Zydis®.

The Commission would like to discuss the possibility of adding other modified formulations to these criteria (e.g. *Xopenex).* Other examples of modified formulations will be discussed at the June DUR meeting.

The DUR Commission reviewed the clinical usefulness of polyethylene glycol 3350 *(OTC MiraLax)* in pre-colonoscopy bowel preps. The Commission did not recommend changes to the existing age limitations on *OTC MiraLax* (0-12 years: no PA required; 13-19 years: PA required; 19+ years: not covered), but did recommend the product be covered without a prior authorization for children 18 years of age and under when being used as a bowel prep. The programmers for the Pharmacy Point of Sale system will investigate ways to best accomplish this, and will report back to the Commission at their June meeting.

Finally, at the request of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, the DUR Commission reviewed the safety of statins plus *Tricor*. The purpose was to determine if utilization data suggested that prescribers were concerned with the safety of combining statins and *Tricor* thus making the case that *Trilipix* offered a clinical advantage over *Tricor* and be recommended for preferred status on the Preferred Drug List. The DUR Commission did not feel as though a change in the Preferred Drug List status of *Trilipix* was warranted based on a review of the available clinical information and utilization data.

Thank you in advance for the Department's consideration of accepting the DUR Commission's recommendation for clinical prior authorization criteria for Modified Formulations, and coverage of *OTC MiraLax* for use in pre-colonoscopy bowel preps without a prior authorization.

Sincerely,

Chad M. Bissell, Pharm.D.
Director, Drug Utilization Review
Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

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