



# MARYLAND PHARMACY PROGRAM

## Medicaid - Pharmacy Assistance – Pharmacy Discount

No. 5B  
Tuesday, January 6, 2004

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) *Maryland Pharmacy Program* (MPP) has developed the **Maryland Pharmacy Program Advisory**. To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations. It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via DHMH, please contact the MPP representative at 410-767-5395.

**PREFERRED DRUG LIST (PDL): LATEST CUMULATIVE UPDATE  
OF THERAPEUTIC CLASSES (TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY FEBRUARY  
2004)**

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has completed development of the first full set of classes for the Preferred Drug List (PDL). This Advisory #5B and the attached PDL supersede any former PDL versions. All Maryland Medicaid rules and edits remain in effect.

**Please note: The PDL will not apply to those patients currently under treatment using medications from the following two categories. The categories are:**

- **Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)**
- **Stimulants and Related Agents**

**For new prescriptions for the above categories where the patient has no recent history (90 days) of therapy, the PDL rules will apply.**

Full consideration for the recipient continues to be a top priority. The prescriber and pharmacist are encouraged to review the available options for drug therapy within the Preferred Drug List. Recipients having problems obtaining prescribed medications from the pharmacy may call the Maryland Pharmacy Access Hotline at 1-800-492-5231. If you (the pharmacy) have any questions, contact the Department at 410-767-1455.

**For Additional Information**

To obtain current and additional information about the Maryland Preferred Drug List, please feel free to visit the following websites:

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

<http://www.dhmd.state.md.us/mma/mpap/prefdruglist.html>

Provider Synergies <http://providersynergies.com>

First Health Services Corporation <http://mdmedicaidrx.fhsc.com>

**Only drugs listed within the therapeutic categories are affected by the PDL. Therapeutic categories not listed here are not part of the PDL and will continue to be covered for Maryland Pharmacy Program patients.**

## ANALGESIC

### Anti-Migraine Agents, Triptans (Anti- Migraine Preparations) Effective as of January 7, 2004

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Amerge Imitrex (oral, nasal & subq) Maxalt, MLT	Axert Frova Relpax Zomig, Nasal, ZMT

### Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatories/COX II Inhibitor (NSAIDS, Cyclooxygenase Inhibitor – Type)

Effective as of November 19, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
diclofenac potassium (Cataflam) diclofenac sodium, XL (Voltaren, XR) etodolac, XL (Lodine, XL) fenoprofen (Nalfon) flurbiprofen (Ansaid) ibuprofen (Motrin) indomethacin, SR (Indocin, SR) ketoprofen (Orudis, Oruvail) ketorolac (Toradol) meclofenamate (Meclomen) nabumetone (Relafen) naproxen (Naprosyn) naproxen sodium, DS (Anaprox, DS) oxaprozin (Daypro) piroxicam (Feldene) sulindac (Clinoril) tolmetin, DS (Tolectin, DS)	Arthrotec Bextra Celebrex Mobic Ponstel Vioxx

<b>Narcotic Analgesics</b> <b>Effective as of January 7, 2004</b>	
<b><u>Preferred</u></b>	<b><u>Requires Prior Authorization</u></b>
acetaminophen w/codeine (Oral)	Darvon-N (oral)
aspirin w/codeine (Oral)	Percocet (Oral)
Avinza (Oral)	Oxycontin (Oral)
butalbital/apap/caffeine (Oral)	Synalgos-DC (Oral)
butalbital/caff/apap/codeine (Oral)	Actiq (Buccal)
codeine phosphate/sulfate (oral)	
Duragesic (Transderm)	
hydrocodone bit-ibuprofen (Oral)	
hydrocodone w/acetaminophen (Oral)	
hydromorphone HCl (Oral)	
Kadian (Oral)	
meperidine HCl (Oral)	
morphine sulfate/IR (Oral)	
oxycodone HCl (Oral)	
oxycodone w/acetaminophen(Oral)	
oxycodone w/aspirin (Oral)	
Panlor DC/SS (Oral)	
pentazocine-naloxone (Oral)	
propoxyphene HCl/compound (Oral)	
propoxyphene HCl w/apap (Oral)	
propoxyphene napsylate w/apap (Oral)	
roxicodone (Oral)	
tramadol HCl (oral)	
Ultracet (Oral)	

## **ANTI-INFECTIVES**

### **Antifungals, Oral (Antifungal Agents, Antifungal Antibiotics)** **Effective as of January 21, 2004**

<b><u>Preferred</u></b>	<b><u>Requires Prior Authorization</u></b>
griseofulvin (Fulvicin)	Ancobon
ketoconazole (Nizoral)	Mycelex Troche
nystatin	Mycostatin Pastilles
Diflucan	Sporanox

Grifulvin V  
Lamisil

Vfend

**Antifungals, Topical (Topical Antifungals)**  
**Effective as of January 21, 2004**

**Preferred**

clotrimazole (Lotrimin)  
clotrimazole/betamethasone (Lotrisone)  
econazole (Spectazole)  
ketoconazole (Nizoral)  
nystatin (Mycostatin)  
nystatin/triamcinolone (Mycolog II)  
Exelderm  
Naftin  
Nizoral Shampoo  
Oxistat

**Requires Prior Authorization**

Loprox  
Loprox Shampoo  
Mentax  
Penlac

**Antivirals (Antivirals, General)**  
**Effective as of December 17, 2003**

**Preferred**

acyclovir (Zovirax)  
amantadine (Symmetrel)  
rimantadine (Flumadine)  
Cytovene  
Famvir  
Tamiflu  
Valcyte

**Requires Prior Authorization**

Relenza  
Valtrex

**Cephalosporin and Related Agents (Cephalosporins, Second and Third Generation, Penicillins)**  
**Effective as of January 21, 2004**

**Preferred**

amoxicillin/clavulanate (Augmentin)  
cefaclor (Ceclor, CD)  
cefadroxil (Duricef)  
cefuroxime (Ceftin)  
cephalexin (Keflex)  
Augmentin ES-600, XR  
Omnicef  
Spectracef

**Requires Prior Authorization**

Cedax  
Cefzil  
Lorabid  
Vantin

**Fluoroquinolones (Quinolones)**  
**Effective as of December 17, 2003**

**Preferred**

ofloxacin (Floxin)  
Avelox, IV

**Requires Prior Authorization**

ciprofloxacin  
Floxin IV

Cipro, XR, IV	Levaquin, IV Maxaquin Noroxin Tequin, IV
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**Macrolides - Effective as of December 17, 2003**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
erythromycin Biaxin, XL Dynabac Zithromax	none

**CARDIOVASCULAR**

**ACE Inhibitor/Calcium Channel Blocker Combination**

Effective as of November 5, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Lexxel Lotrel Tarka	none

**ACE Inhibitors (Hypotensives, ACE Inhibitors)**

Effective as of December 3, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
captopril, HCTZ (Capoten, Capozide) enalapril, HCTZ (Vasotec, Vaseretic) lisinopril, HCTZ (Prinivil, Zestril, Prinzide, Zestoretic) moexipril (Univasc) Aceon Monopril, HCT Uniretic	Accupril, Accuretic Altace Lotensin, HCT Mavik

**Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (Hypotensives, Angiotensin Receptor Antagonist)**

Effective as of November 19, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Avapro, Avalide	Atacand, HCT
Benicar, HCT	Teveten, HCT
Cozaar, Hyzaar	
Diovan, HCT	
Micardis, HCT	

**Beta Blockers (Alpha/Beta-Adrenergic Blocking Agents, Beta-Adrenergic Blocking Agents)**

Effective as of November 5, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
acebutolol (Sectral)	Cartrol
atenolol (Tenormin)	Innopran XL
betaxolol (Kerlone)	Levatol
bisoprolol (Zebeta)	
labetalol (Normodyne, Trandate)	
metoprolol (Lopressor)	
nadolol (Corgard)	
pindolol (Visken)	
propranolol (Inderal)	
sotalol, AF (Betapace, AF)	
timolol (Blocadren)	
Coreg	
Toprol XL	

<b>Calcium Channel Blocking Agents</b>	
<b>Effective as of December 3, 2003</b>	
<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
diltiazem (Cardizem)	Cardene SR
diltiazem SR, ER (Cardizem SR, CD, Dilacor XR, Tiazac)	Cardizem LA
nicardipine (Cardene)	Covera-HS
nifedipine, SR (Adalat, CC, Procardia, XL)	Nimotop
verapamil (Calan)	Vascor
verapamil ER, SR (Calan SR, Verelan)	Verelan PM
Dynacirc, CR	
Norvasc	
Plendil	

Sular	
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**Lipotropics, Other (Lipotropics, Bile Salt Sequestrants)  
Effective as of November 5, 2003**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
cholestyramine (Questran, Light)	Lofibra
gemfibrozil (Lopid)	Welchol
niacin (Niacor)	Zetia
Advicor	
Colestid	
Niaspan	
Tricor	

**Lipotropics, Statins (Lipotropics)  
Effective as of December 3, 2003**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
lovastatin (Mevacor)	Crestor
Altacor	Pravigard PAC
Lescol, XL	
Lipitor	
Pravachol	
Zocor	

**ENDOCRINE**

**Bone Resorption Suppression and Related Agents (Bone Resorption Inhibitors, Bone Formation Stim. Agents – Parathyroid Hormone)  
Effective as of January 7, 2004**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Actonel	Didronel
Fosamax	Evista
Miacalcin	Forteo

**Estrogen Agents, Combination (Estrogenic Agents)  
Effective as of January 7, 2004**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Activella	FemHRT
Combipatch	

Prefest  
Premphase  
Prempro

**Estrogen Agents, Oral and Transdermal (Estrogenic Agents)  
Effective as of January 7, 2004**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
estradiol (Estrace) estradiol transdermal patches (Estraderm) estropipate (Ogen, Ortho-Est) Premarin	Cenestin Menest

**Hypoglycemics, Insulin  
Effective as of January 21, 2004**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Lantus Novolin Novolog Novolog Mix	Humulin Humalog Humalog Mix

**Hypoglycemics, TZDs (Hypoglycemics, Insulin-Response  
Enhancers)  
Effective as of December 17, 2003**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Avandia	Actos

**GASTROINTESTINAL**

**Proton Pump Inhibitors (Gastric Acid Secretion Reducers)  
Effective as of November 5, 2003**

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
Aciphex Prevacid	omeprazole Nexium Prilosec Protonix

**RESPIRATORY**

**Inhaled Corticosteroids (Beta-Adrenergics and  
Glucocorticoids Combination, Glucocorticoids)**

Effective as of November 5, 2003

<u>Preferred</u>	<u>Requires Prior Authorization</u>
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Advair Diskus Aerobid, Aerobid M Azmacort Flovent, Rotadisk Qvar Pulmicort Respules (Ages 1-8)	Pulmicort Respules (Over Age 8, Under Age 1) Pulmicort Turbuhaler
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**Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists**

Effective as of November 5, 2003

<u><b>Preferred</b></u>	<u><b>Requires Prior Authorization</b></u>
Singulair	Accolate

**Nasal Corticosteroids (Nasal Anti-Inflammatory Steroids)**

Effective as of November 19, 2003

<u><b>Preferred</b></u>	<u><b>Requires Prior Authorization</b></u>
flunisolide (Nasalide) Flonase Nasonex	Beconase AQ Nasacort AQ Nasarel Rhinocort Aqua

**UROLOGIC**

**Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (Alpha-Adrenergic Blocking Agents)**

Effective as of November 5, 2003

<u><b>Preferred</b></u>	<u><b>Requires Prior Authorization</b></u>
doxazosin (Cardura) terazosin (Hytrin) Avodart Flomax Proscar	none

## **Instructions for the Pharmacist**

When the pharmacist submits an on line-prescription for a non-preferred drug product whose class is on the preferred drug list, a message will appear “NON-PREF'D (PA req'd) MD call 1-800-932-3918.” The pharmacist should:

- Refer to the PDL reference list
- Notify the customer that the drug prescribed is not a preferred drug
- Contact the prescriber explaining that the drug is a not a preferred drug
- Discuss the preferred drug options with the prescriber

### **If the prescriber agrees to switch to a preferred drug:**

The pharmacist will:

#### **For Original Prescriptions**

- Draw a line through the original drug name, strength and directions
- Write the new drug name, strength, directions and number of refills
- Initial and note that the prescriber changed to a preferred drug

#### **For Refills**

- Pharmacist will note on the original prescription order that a switch has been made to a preferred drug and will create a new prescription number
- Pharmacist will not be required to obtain a new written prescription from the prescriber if a preferred drug is switched from the referenced original non-preferred prescription
- The prescription will be treated as a new prescription with the complement of refills as indicated by the prescriber

### **If the prescriber does not agree to switch to a preferred drug:**

The pharmacist will explain to the prescriber that:

- He/she must contact the preauthorization center at First Health Services Corporation via telephone at 1-800-932-3918 or via facsimile at 1-800-932-3921
- The prescription cannot be filled until the preauthorization is completed

After prior authorization has been obtained by the prescriber,

- The First Health Service Call Center will contact the pharmacy confirming pre-authorization
- The pharmacist can then complete the prescription, which was previously denied

**When the prescriber cannot be contacted, the pharmacist is to call the preauthorization call center at 1-800-932-3918 to obtain approval for a 72-hour emergency supply of a non-preferred drug**

- The pharmacist is to dispense the non-preferred drug
- Within the 72-hour window, the prescriber is to be contacted
- The pharmacist will receive a \$3.69 dispensing fee for the 72-hour supply and the recipient will not be charged a co-pay (e.g. \$0 co-pay)

**When the prescriber is contacted after the 72-hour supply has been dispensed and the prescriber continues with the non-preferred drug:**

- The prescriber is to be advised that he/she must obtain prior authorization before the remainder of the prescription can be dispensed
- After prior authorization has been established, the pharmacist can dispense the remainder of the prescription and receive an additional \$3.69 dispensing fee
- The appropriate co-pay will be charged to the recipient

**When the prescriber is contacted after the 72-hour supply has been dispensed and the prescriber elects to switch to a preferred drug:**

- Pharmacist completes the notation process previously described
- The pharmacist will receive a dispensing fee of \$4.69 and no-co-pay will be assessed to the recipient

**When the pharmacist is having difficulty contacting the prescriber after the 72-hour supply has been dispensed, if necessary, a second 72-hour supply may be dispensed. However, the pharmacy must contact the Department for further instructions at 410-767-1455.**