PHARMACY NEWS

PASSPORT HEALTH PLAN

SUPPORTING OUR PROVIDER PARTNERS THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION.

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ISSUE 1

HELPFUL NUMBERS FOR PROVIDERS

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HELPFUL NUMBERS FOR MEMBERS

Passport Health Plan
1-800-578-0603

WEBSITE
www.passporthealthplan.com

NEW IN THIS ISSUE

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- Specialty Network
- Opioid Quantity Limit Updates
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- Recent FDA Advisories
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New Generics:

Drug Name	PDL Category	Comments
Memantine	Alzheimer's Agents	The first generic for Namenda solution
Dutasteride	BPH Agents	The first generic for Avodart
Aripiprazole ODT	Antipsychotics	The first generic for Abilify ODT
Pimozide	Antipsychotics	The first generic for Orap
Paliperidone ER	Antipsychotics	The first generic for Invega
Fluvastatin ER	Lipotropics, Statins	The first generic for Lescol XL
Tretinoin	Acne Agents, Topical	The first generic for Atralin 0.05% gel
Rivastigmine	Alzheimer's Agents	The first generic for Exelon patch

Specialty Network: Retail Pharmacies Dispensing Specialty Products

On behalf of Passport Health Plan, MagellanRx established a new network to better manage specialty products which went live on November 17, 2015. If you wish to continue filling these products, your pharmacy will need to apply and contract to be a participating provider in this network, if you have not already done so. Your pharmacy will not be able to fill for specialty products until you have completed the credentialing process.

To request an application and list of specialty products, please call Magellan Provider Operations at 1-800-441-6001.

Opioid Quantity Limit Update

Passport Health Plan has updated its quantity limits for **ALL** opioids (long-acting and short-acting). The updated point-of-sale (POS) edits will go into effect first quarter of 2016 and daily limits are now based on a morphine equivalent dose per day. POS overrides may still be applied by pharmacies for members with **pain due to cancer, those in Hospice, and those transitioning out of Long Term Care.** Quantity limits are posted on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) located on the Pharmacy Page of Passport's website: www.passporthealthplan.com/pharmacy.

All medications may be subject to edits to limit quantities dispensed, day's supply, and drug-drug interactions at the point of service. Pharmacy and Therapeutic Committee decisions are based upon relevant medical literature that is evidence based and peer reviewed. Price(s) listed are calculated based on Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) published by First Data Bank. The cost of therapy is calculated based on a 30 days' supply unless otherwise indicated. This information is to be used as a reference and/or a learning tool for providers.

MTM Champion Spotlight

Pharmacist Prevents an Additional Prescription Order

Jonathan Shaw; Rite Aid Pharmacy 02558 – Brandenburg, KY

A TIP alerted Jonathan that a patient was not adherent to their controller medication for COPD. Jonathan reached out to the patient and discovered the patient had not been filling their medication due to running out of refills. Jonathan stressed the importance of using the inhaler each day to control the patient's breathing symptoms and contacted the physician for a new prescription for the medication. The physician sent in the prescription and in follow-up, the patient has filled their controller inhaler on time for the past two months.

Thanks to Jonathan's intervention, an additional prescription order was prevented. Great work, Jonathan!

Passport Advantage (HMO SNP)

Effective January 1, 2016, Navitus Health Solutions will begin processing claims for Passport Advantage.

Navitus requires that claims submitted at the point of service utilize the NCPDP D.0 Telecommunications format. To obtain the most current payer sheets, visit www.navitus.com. Select "Pharmacies" and click "Pharmacies Login." Enter your NPI number and NCPDP number to access the pharmacy portal.

Pharmacy provider contract inquiries can be directed to providerrelations@navitus.com.

Navitus Customer Care: 1-866-270-3877
www.medicarerx.navitus.com

Recent U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Safety Advisories Affecting Network Pharmacies and Providers

The FDA recently issued the following advisories:

9/21/15 **FDA evaluating the risks of using the pain medicine tramadol in children aged 17 and younger.** Use of the pain medicine tramadol may lead to the rare but serious risk of slowed or difficult breathing. This risk may be increased in children treated with tramadol for pain after surgery to remove their tonsils and/or adenoids. Tramadol is not FDA-approved for use in children; however, per the FDA, data show it is being used "off-label" in the pediatric population. Health care professionals should be aware of this and consider prescribing alternative FDA-approved pain medicines for children.

9/22/15 **DA cautions about dose confusion and medication error with antibacterial drug Avycaz (ceftazidime and avibactam).** The FDA is warning health care professionals about the risk for dosing errors with the intravenous antibacterial drug Avycaz (ceftazidime and avibactam) due to confusion about the drug strength. Avycaz was initially approved with the vial and carton labels displaying the individual strengths of the two active ingredients (i.e., 2 gram/0.5 gram); however, the product is dosed based on the sum of the active ingredients (i.e., 2.5 gram). To prevent medication errors, the FDA revised the labels to indicate that each vial contains Avycaz 2.5 gram, equivalent to ceftazidime 2 gram and avibactam 0.5 gram.

10/22/15 **FDA requires drug interaction studies with potassium-lowering drug Kayexalate (sodium polystyrene sulfonate).** The FDA is requiring the manufacturer of Kayexalate to conduct studies to investigate Kayexalate's potential to bind other oral medications, which could affect the efficacy of the other medications. In order to reduce this potential risk, the FDA is recommending that prescribers and patients consider separating Kayexalate dosing from other medications taken by mouth by at least 6 hours.

10/22/15 **FDA warns of serious liver injury risk with hepatitis C treatments Viekira Pak and Technivie.** The FDA is requiring the manufacturers of Viekira Pak and Technivie to add new information regarding the increased risk of serious liver injury, mostly in patients with underlying advanced liver disease, to the drug labels. In most of the cases reported, liver injury occurred within 1 to 4 weeks of starting treatment. Some of the cases occurred in patients for whom these medicines were contraindicated or not recommended.

10/26/15 **FDA review found no increased cardiovascular risks with Parkinson's disease drug entacapone.** The FDA alerted patients and health care professionals about a possible increased risk for cardiovascular events and death with entacapone in an August 2010 Drug Safety Communication. However, an FDA safety review has found no clear evidence of an increased risk of heart attacks, stroke, or other cardiovascular events associated with the use of entacapone for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

11/06/15 **FDA review finds long-term treatment with blood-thinning medicine Plavix (clopidogrel) does not change risk of death.** An FDA review has determined that long-term use of the drug Plavix (clopidogrel) does not increase or decrease overall risk of death in patients with, or at risk for, heart disease. The FDA evaluation of the Dual Antiplatelet Therapy (DAPT)1 trial and several other clinical trials also does not suggest that clopidogrel increases the risk of cancer or death from cancer. Results from the DAPT trial were published in the New England Journal of Medicine in November 2014.

Please visit www.fda.gov/opacom/7alerts.html for more information.

The Passport Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Reviewed the Following Medications in November 2015:

BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME/ DOSAGE FORMS	INDICATIONS	FORMULARY ALTERNATIVES	PASSPORT HEALTH PLAN STATUS
Viekira Pak™	Ombitasvir, Paritaprevir, Ritonavir and Dasabuvir	Genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C virus infection	Harvoni and Sovaldi	Viekira Pak: Nonpreferred Harvoni and Sovaldi: Preferred
Aptensio XR™	Methylphenidate ER	ADD, ADHD	Methylphenidate long and short acting products	Nonpreferred; QL 60mg/day
Arnuity™ Ellipta®	Fluticasone Furoate	Asthma	Qvar	Preferred
Corlanor®	Ivabradine	Heart failure	Maximum tolerated doses of beta-blockers	Preferred; PA; QL 2 tabs/day
Entresto™	Sacubitril/Valsartan	Heart failure	Generic ACE-I and ARBs	Nonpreferred; PA; QL 2 tabs/day
Invega Trinza™	Paliperidone	Schizophrenia	Invega Sustenna	Preferred; QL 1 inj/3 months Step-therapy: Invega Sustenna
Natesto™	Testosterone nasal gel	Hypogonadism	Generic testosterone preparations	Nonpreferred; QL 33mg/day (3 pumps per 30 days) Step-therapy: generic testosterone preparations Androgel: Nonpreferred
Rexulti®	Brexipiprazole	MDD; Schizophrenia	Aripiprazole	Nonpreferred; PA; QL 1 tab/day Step-therapy: aripiprazole and preferred atypical
Stiolto™ Respimat®	Tiotropium and Olodaterol	COPD	Alternative COPD agents	Preferred; QL 1 inhaler/month

BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME/ DOSAGE FORMS	INDICATIONS	FORMULARY ALTERNATIVES	PASSPORT HEALTH PLAN STATUS
Daklinza™	Daclatasvir	Genotype 3 chronic hepatitis C virus infection	Sovaldi, ribavirin, peginterferon	Nonpreferred; Specialty; PA; QL 1 tab/day
Technivie™	Ombitasvir, Paritaprevir and Ritonavir	Genotype 4 chronic hepatitis C virus infection	Harvoni	Nonpreferred; Specialty; PA; QL 2 tabs/day
Striverdi® Respimat®	Olodaterol HCl	COPD	Perforomist	Preferred