



## **Prescription Drug Program Updates for July 1, 2018**

### **Programs being removed from your plan**

- **Antiviral Step Therapy:** this program was in place requiring that members try Acyclovir then Famciclovir prior to the use of Valtrex and its generic. As of July 1, 2018, this step therapy requirement is being removed and all products will be available without prior use of other medications.
- **Proton Pump Inhibitor Step Therapy:** this program was in place requiring that members try OTC products and generics (omeprazole, esomeprazole, etc.) before the use of brand medications (Nexium, Prilosec, etc.). As of July 1, 2018, this step therapy requirement is being removed.

### **Programs being added to your plan**

- **Exclusion of high-cost generic Zegerid (OMEPRAZOLE/SODIUM BICARBONATE): this medication will not be covered effective July 1, 2018.** This particular generic has an extremely high cost, and we are encouraging the use of more cost-effective medications in this class. Alternatives include the following OTC products: Zegerid OTC, Nexium 24HR OTC, Prilosec OTC, and Prevacid 24HR OTC, and the following generic products: omeprazole, esomeprazole, lansoprazole, and pantoprazole.
- **Standard Anti-psychotic Step Therapy:** this program requires that for use of the following brands: FANAPT, LATUDA, or VRAYLAR, you must first try any two of the following generics or preferred brands: aripiprazole, olanzapine, quetiapine, risperidone, SAPHRIS, or SEROQUEL XR. *This update impacts new utilizers only.*
- **New Drugs to Market Exclusion:** this program will exclude certain new specialty and non-specialty medications when they become available in the marketplace, including new chemical entities and medication combinations not previously available. These drugs will be excluded until a clinical and economic assessment by our OptumRx National Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee is complete.
- **New Age Limit for ADHD Medications:** a new age limit becomes effective for ADHD Agents will require a Prior Authorization for members ages 19 and up. (The limit was previously age 23.)
- **New Age Limit for Acne Medications:** a new age limit becomes effective 7/1/18 and Acne (Tretinoin products) will require a Prior Authorization for members over 25 years of age. (The limit was previously age 32.)



➤ **Affordable Care Act Statin Coverage:** due to ACA requirements, there is a mandatory addition of coverage for generic statins. This coverage will provide generic lovastatin for a \$0 copay. Prior Authorization will be required for a \$0 copay for simvastatin and atorvastatin. (In order for authorization to be approved, your doctor will need to provide evidence that the medication is being used for primary prevention.)

➤ **Opioid Risk Management Program**

This is a new version of the Opioid program, and it aligns with current CDC and FDA guidelines. These prescribing guidelines have been adopted by State Medical Board of Ohio, Ohio State Dental Board, Ohio Board of Nursing and Ohio Board of Pharmacy.

1. **Members New to Therapy: Limits on Short Acting Opioids**

Members who are new to opioid therapy (*no opioid in their most recent 120-day claims history*), will be limited to a **maximum of 49 morphine-equivalent mg per day of an opioid medication per fill, a maximum 7 day supply, and a limit of 2 fills within a 60-day timeframe.**

2. **Members Already Taking Opioids: Limits on Short Acting Opioids**

Members who are **NOT** new to therapy (*have opioid fills in their most recent 120-day claims history*), will be limited to a **maximum of 90 morphine-equivalent mg per day of an opioid medication per fill, and limited to 2 fills within a 60-day timeframe.**

Additional fills and quantities are available after getting prior authorization approval to ensure appropriate use. (This is the same process that is currently in place today.). If a member has a prior authorization in place to allow for additional quantities, that will remain in place until it expires. Then your physician must request a renewal of the prior authorization (as they are currently required to do).