Keystone First | Keystone First Community HealthChoices

PHARMACY FAST FACTS
Important Formulary Update for our Providers

Two Important Pharmacy Updates:

1. **Hydroxychloroquine Limits**
2. **Ranitidine (Zantac) Market Withdrawal**

1. **<u>Effective immediately</u>, Keystone First and Keystone First Community HealthChoices (CHC) will follow the Department of Human Services (DHS) guidelines regarding the effort to prevent potential shortages of hydroxychloroquine, by implementing the following quantity limits:**
   - ✓ Prior authorization will be required for hydroxychloroquine with a quantity greater than 4 tablets per day.
   - ✓ Prior authorization will be required for hydroxychloroquine with a day supply greater than 10 days.
   - ✓ Prior authorization requests for longer durations for treatment of COVID-19 may be approved based on current medical literature and specialist/prescriber input.
   - ✓ No prior authorization approval will be issued for COVID-19 prophylaxis.
   - ✓ Prior authorization approval will be automatic at the point-of-sale for current users of hydroxychloroquine, and can be issued automatically for those with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis or lupus if the corresponding ICD-10 code is entered by the billing pharmacy upon claim submission. These patients will be able to obtain their usual day supply at the pharmacy.

   The above limits align with the dosing found in current medical literature for both COVID-19 and nonCOVID-19 indications. Should the recommended dosage of hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 change in the coming days, these limits will be adjusted by DHS. This guidance will remain in effect for 90 days or while a valid disaster declaration authorized by the Governor related to the COVID-19 virus remains in effect, whichever is earlier.

2. **As you are aware, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has requested a manufacturer's market withdrawal of ranitidine, known commonly by the brand name Zantac. This means ranitidine products will not be available for new or existing prescriptions or over-the-counter (OTC) use in the U.S.**

   We are in the process of notifying Members/Participants who have recently had a prescription filled for ranitidine of this market recall and provided instructions to stop taking ranitidine products either prescription or over the counter.

   These patients taking prescription ranitidine have been advised to speak with their provider. **Please substitute the following formulary medication for your Keystone First or Keystone First CHC patients needing a new prescription:**

   Famotidine

   For more detailed information, please visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration site:
   https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/questions-and-answers-ndma-impurities-ranitidine-commonly-known-zantac

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Pharmacy Services at: Keystone First (1-800-588-6767) or Keystone First CHC (1-866-907-7088).

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April 6, 2020