

# SPECIAL BULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL PROVIDERS

ORIGINALLY ISSUED JUNE 30, 2014 (UPDATED 9/10/14)

ATTENTION PHYSICIANS:

## EFFECTIVE 9/1/14, HIGHMARK TO ADD 11-12 DRUGS TO PHARMACY PRIOR AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM FOR MEDICARE ADVANTAGE MEMBERS

Effective with dates of service of Sept. 1, 2014, and beyond, we will add 11-12 prescription medications of various dosage forms and strengths to our pharmacy Prior Authorization Program for Medicare Advantage members. The medications listed in the following chart will be added to the Prior Authorization Program, effective with dates of service of Sept. 1, 2014, and beyond. (Please note: Prior authorization for these drugs will apply only to members enrolled in our Medicare Advantage HMO product offered in western Pennsylvania and to members enrolled in our Medicare Advantage PPO product offered in parts of Pennsylvania; these drugs will not require authorization until the effective date, Sept. 1, 2014.) **IMPORTANT UPDATE:** Prior authorization **will not** apply to the IV ("SOLN") and transdermal ("PTCH") dosage forms of the anti-emetic drugs as was listed below in the provider bulletin originally issued June 30, 2014. Prior authorization only applies **to the oral dosage forms** for these anti-emetic drugs.

DRUG NAME	DOSAGE FORM	STRENGTH
CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE	TABS	25 MG
CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE	TABS	50 MG
ANZEMET	SOLN	20 MG/ML
ANZEMET	TABS	100 MG
ANZEMET	TABS	50 MG
GRANISETRON HCL	SOLN	0.1 MG/ML
GRANISETRON HCL	SOLN	1 MG/ML
GRANISETRON HCL	TABS	1 MG
GRANISOL	ORAL SOLN	2 MG/10 ML
ONDANSETRON HCL	SOLN	4 MG/2 ML
ONDANSETRON HCL	SOLN	4 MG/5 ML
ONDANSETRON HCL	TABS	24 MG
ONDANSETRON HCL	TABS	4 MG
ONDANSETRON ODT	TBDP	4 MG
ONDANSETRON HCL	TABS	8 MG
ONDANSETRON ODT	TBDP	8 MG
SANCUSO	PTCH	3.1 MG/24 HR
ZOFRAN	SOLN	40 MG/20 ML



(continued)

Camp Hill, PA 17089

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ZOFRAN	SOLN	4 MG/5 ML
ZOFRAN	TABS	4 MG
ZOFRAN ODT	TBDP	4 MG
ZOFRAN	TABS	8 MG
ZOFRAN ODT	TBDP	8 MG
ATGAM	INJ	50 MG/ML
ENGERIX-B	SUSP	10 MCG/0.5 ML
ENGERIX-B	SUSP	20 MCG/ML
IMOVAX RABIES (H.D.C.V.)	INJ	2.5 UNIT/ML
RECOMBIVAX HB	SUSP	10 MCG/ML
RECOMBIVAX HB	SUSP	40 MCG/ML
PROSOL	SOLN	20 percent

Our pharmaceutical management programs, including the pharmacy Prior Authorization Program, are designed to safeguard patients from potentially harmful drug interactions and side effects; optimize clinically appropriate therapy; promote appropriate prescription drug utilization; and promote compliance with recommended drug quantity, dosage and intended use of product.

To view the authorization policies for the drugs included in the Prior Authorization Program, visit the *Pharmacy/Formulary Information* link on our online Provider Resource Center, which is accessible via NaviNet® or under Helpful Links on the bottom of our website's landing page. Under that link's Pharmacy Information section, click *Pharmaceutical Management (Clinical Management Programs)*. Then, under the Pharmaceutical Management Programs section, click *Prior Authorization*, where you will find a link to the policies. (**Please note:** Prior Authorization policies for the drugs listed in the chart within this Special Bulletin won't be available until the effective date, Sept. 1, 2014.)

## NAVINET IS PREFERRED WAY TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATIONS

Using NaviNet or the appropriate HIPAA electronic transactions remains the preferred way to obtain prior authorization for prescription medications that require authorization. If you don't have NaviNet or access to the HIPAA electronic transactions, you may call the toll-free Provider Service Center number on the back of the Medicare Advantage member's ID card to obtain authorization.

## FORMULARY UPDATES AVAILABLE ONLINE

We regularly update our prescription drug formularies and related pharmaceutical management procedures. To keep you apprised of these changes, we provide quarterly formulary updates in the form of Special eBulletins. These Special eBulletins are available on our Provider Resource Center under *Publications and Mailings*, then *Special Bulletins & Mailings* and finally *Formulary/Drug*. Additionally, notices are placed on the Resource Center's Today's Messages page to alert you when new quarterly formulary update Special eBulletins are available.

If you have questions regarding this Special Bulletin, please contact your Provider Relations Representative or Provider Relations Consultant.