Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Program Update

Antipsychotics - Second Generation

On April 19, 2012, the New York State Medicaid Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee recommended changes to the therapeutic class of Antipsychotics - Second Generation. The Commissioner of Health reviewed the recommendations of the P&T Committee and has approved the following changes to the Preferred Drug Program (PDP) therapeutic class, within the Fee-For-Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program. Effective November 29, 2012, prior authorization (PA) requirements will change for the Antipsychotics - Second Generation.

The Commissioner's final determination is as follows:

- Abilify to remain non-preferred - PA will not be required when prescribed for patients with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia as verified through Medicaid claims information.
- Fazaclo and Seroquel to be non-preferred.

Note: Patients stabilized on atypical anti-psychotics will continue to obtain their medications without prior authorization.

Please note that PA requirements are no longer dependent on the date a prescription is written. New prescriptions and refills on existing prescriptions require PA even if the prescription was written before the date the drug was determined to require PA.

The Preferred Drug List (PDL) and additional information, such as updated PA forms and clinical criteria for the PDP, Clinical Drug Review Program (CDRP) and Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Program are available at the following websites:

http://www.nyhealth.gov OR http://newyork.fhsc.com OR http://www.eMedNY.org

To obtain a PA, please contact the prior authorization clinical call center at (877) 309-9493. The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with pharmacy technicians and pharmacists who will work with you, or your agent, to quickly obtain PA. If you have any questions, wish to obtain additional information regarding New York Medicaid Pharmacy Programs or would like to receive information on these programs, please contact the clinical call center at (877) 309-9493. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to maintain a quality pharmacy program for Medicaid fee-for-service members.