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DMAP Policy and Planning Section

Authorized Signature

Number: DMAP-IM-06-170

Issue Date: 10/04/2006

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Provider announcement: Plan Drug List (PDL) updated effective September 1, 2006

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): DHS staff and others identified on the SPD, CAF, AMH and DMAP transmittal lists |

Message:

This week, DMAP will send the following letter to prescribing providers and pharmacies. It lets them know that the Plan Drug List (PDL) has been updated; what the PDL is; and how to use it. For more information about the PDL, go to the PDL Web page at <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/tools_prov/pdl.shtml>.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

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Oregon

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October 2, 2006

To: DMAP Prescribing Providers and Pharmacies

From: Allison Knight, Assistant Manager
DMAP Policy and Planning Section



Subject: Plan Drug List (PDL) changes effective September 1, 2006

The Division of Medical Assistance Programs (DMAP) has updated the Oregon Medicaid PDL (also known as the Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan) effective September 1, 2006. The PDL is a tool to identify the most cost-effective and safe drug for open-card Oregon Health Plan (OHP) clients. DMAP asks that when practitioners start a new drug, to consider the drugs on the PDL first.

DMAP routinely evaluates the PDL to include current clinical information reviewed by the Health Resources Commission (HRC). Updated evidence reports from the HRC are available at www.oregon.gov/DAS/OHPPR/HRC/Index.shtml.

- The Pocket Drug Guide includes the PDL and is available on the OHP's Plan Drug List page www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/tools_prov/pdl.shtml.
- All current PDL and pharmacy benefit information for open-card OHP patients is also available for free download to handheld or personal computers from Epocrates <http://www.epocrates.com/products/rx/>.

Thanks to your efforts to use preferred and generic drugs for OHP patients, a recent Office of Inspector General report¹ noted that Oregon's Medicaid program ranks second in the nation for generic drug utilization rates. Unlike commercial plans and other state Medicaid programs, Oregon law does not allow DMAP to strictly enforce the PDL², so continued success depends on your participation.

Thank you for working to ensure that OHP patients receive affordable and effective prescription drug therapy.

¹ *Generic Drug Utilization in State Medicaid Programs*. HHS Office of Inspector General, July 2006.

www.oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-05-05-00360.pdf.

² *Health Affairs*. Volume 25, Issue 5 (2006), pp. 1423-1432.