

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D. Commissioner

James W. Clyne, Jr. Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 10, 2010

Dear Pharmacy Provider:

The New York State Medicaid Clinical Drug Review Program (CDRP) is expanding to include growth hormones. The goal of the program is to ensure that utilization of growth hormones in enrollees 21 years of age and **older** is appropriate.

Therefore, effective June 17, 2010:

- Prescriptions for preferred and non-preferred growth hormones for enrollees 21 years of age and older will require prior authorization.
- Prescriptions for preferred growth hormones for enrollees under 21 years of age will NOT require prior authorization. Prescriptions for non-preferred growth hormones will require prior authorization regardless of the enrollee's age

To obtain prior authorization (PA), the prescriber will contact the Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Clinical Call Center.

- Prescriptions for a non-preferred growth hormone for an enrollee less than 21 years of age will carry a PA number ending in W. Pharmacists are required to validate the prior authorization number prior to dispensing. To validate a prior authorization ending in W. please call the prior authorization Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system at 1-877-309-9493. Be sure to listen for the appropriate prompts. The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. This process has not changed.
- Prescriptions for a preferred or non-preferred growth hormone for enrollees 21 years of age and older will require that Department of Health (DOH) staff directly assist you in processing the claim. Effective June 17, 2010, please contact DOH at 518-473-0912 prior to dispensing growth hormones for enrollees 21 years of age and older.

Remember, prescriptions for preferred growth hormones for enrollees less than 21 years of age will NOT require prior authorization.

You may be contacted by a pharmacist from the First Health Services clinical education team to provide you with additional information regarding the inclusion of growth hormones into the CDRP. The clinical education team may be reached at 518-951-2051.

For Clinical Drug Review Program questions or concerns, or to obtain the Quick List of preferred drugs in the Preferred Drug Program, please visit http://newyork.fhsc.com or contact the clinical call center at 1-877-309-9493. For Medicaid pharmacy policy and operations questions, please call 518-486-3209. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to provide a quality pharmacy program for Medicaid and Family Health Plus enrollees.

Sincerely,

PDP Program Manager

Mary a Donohue

Bureau of Pharmacy Policy and Operations Office of Health Insurance Programs