



Attention Pharmacy Providers- Important Information Regarding Drug Shortages as of 5/22/20

Updates are highlighted

Due to reported market shortages and allocation constraints, Medicaid FFS has relaxed prior authorization for certain non-preferred drug(s)/drug classes to ensure access to necessary medications during the Declared Disaster Emergency in NY.

- ProAir HFA is a preferred product in the Inhaled Short-Acting Beta2 Adrenergic Therapeutic Class. If this product is not available, the following drugs are available without PA:
 - albuterol HFA, levalbuterol HFA, ProAir Digihaler & RespiClick, Proventil HFA, Ventolin HFA and Xopenex HFA (change made effective 3/19/20)
- Generic azithromycin is preferred over the brand products per substitution law. If this product is not available, the following brand drugs are available without PA:
 - Zithromax 250mg & 500mg tablets, Zithromax 1gm packet and Zithromax 100mg & 200mg suspensions (change made effective 4/1/20)
- Flovent HFA is the preferred HFA product in the Inhaled Corticosteroids Therapeutic Class. If this product is not available, the following HFA inhaler is available without PA:
 - Asmanex HFA (change made effective again 5/6/20)
- Generic sulfasalazine IR/DR/EC are preferred products in the Sulfasalazine Derivative Therapeutic Class. If these products are not available, the following drugs are available without PA:
 - Azulfidine and Azulfidine Entab (change made effective 5/8/20)
- Generic levetiracetam IR/ER are preferred products in the Anticonvulsants- Other Therapeutic Class. If these products are not available, the following drugs are available without PA:
 - Keppra and Keppra XR (change made effective 5/8/20)
- Generic methenamine tablet is preferred over the brand product per substitution law. If this product is not available, the following brand drug is available without PA:
 - Hiprex (change made effective 5/8/20)

➤ Generic venlafaxine ER capsule is a preferred product in the Serotonin-Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitor (SNRI) Therapeutic Class. If this product is not available, the following product is available without PA:

- Effexor XR* (change made effective 5/22/20)

**Please note other clinical criteria may still apply*

This information has also been communicated to the Medicaid Managed Care plans. For specific [Medicaid Managed Care plan](#) formulary questions please contact the specific plan.

For any questions on Medicaid FFS Pharmacy guidance, please contact our mailbox at: ppno@health.ny.gov