Executive Summary

Purpose: The MO HealthNet Pharmacy Program will implement a state-specific preferred drug list.

Why Issue Selected: Hyperuricemia, defined as serum uric acid greater than 6.8mg/dL, can occur either due to an overproduction of uric acid, an under excretion of uric acid, or a combination of the two mechanisms. Most often, hyperuricemia results as a reduction in fractional clearance of urate rather than an over production of urate, occurring as a result of primary hyperuricemia and secondary hyperuricemia. Hyperuricemia is the most important risk factor for developing gout. Gout is the crystal deposition of monosodium urate associated with elevated levels of uric acid. Crystals are deposited in joints, tendons, and surrounding tissues. Some clinical manifestations of gout may include recurrent flares of inflammatory arthritis (gout flare), chronic arthropathy, accumulation of urate crystals in the form of tophaceous deposits, and uric acid nephrolithiasis. Acute attacks of gout are painful and over half of all cases involve the metatarsophalangeal joint of the great toe. Treatment of gout is divided into two phases: acute treatment and chronic prevention. Acute gouty arthritis can be treated with colchicine, NSAIDs, and corticosteroid injections. Urate-lowering agents are uricosuric drugs or xanthine oxidase inhibitors have shown results in reduced frequency of progression of gout to the tophaceous stage. Evidence-based recommendations for the treatment of gout address symptomatic control of acute gout, urate lowering therapy, and prophylaxis of acute attacks. It is recommended to screen patients who are of Chinese, Thai, Korean or other ethnicities who have an increased frequency of the human leukocyte antigen (HLA)-B*5801 gene as giving them allopurinol is associated with an increased risk of severe cutaneous adverse reaction (SCAR), so it is not recommended. Allopurinol and febuxostat are both not recommended in patients who are also taking azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine, patients with urolithiasis, and those who have a risk of uric acid nephropathy.

Total program savings for the PDL classes will be regularly reviewed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program-Specific Information:</th>
<th>Preferred Agents</th>
<th>Non-Preferred Agents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allopurinol</td>
<td>Colchicine Caps</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colchicine Tabs</td>
<td>Colcrys®</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Probenecid</td>
<td>Febuxostat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Probenecid/Colchicine</td>
<td>Gloperba®</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mitigare®</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Uloric®</td>
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<td>Zyloprim®</td>
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</table>
Setting & Population

- Drug class for review: Antihyperuricemic Agents
- Age range: All appropriate MO HealthNet participants

Denial Criteria

- Lack of adequate trial on required preferred agents
- Therapy will be denied if all approval criteria are not met
- Claim exceeds maximum dosing limitation for the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Description</th>
<th>Generic Equivalent</th>
<th>Max Dosing Limitation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ULORIC 40 MG TABLET</td>
<td>FEBUXOSTAT</td>
<td>1 tablet per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULORIC 80 MG TABLET</td>
<td>FEBUXOSTAT</td>
<td>1 tablet per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required Documentation

- Laboratory Results:
- Progress Notes:
- MedWatch Form:
- Other:

Disposition of Edit

- Denial: Exception Code “0160” (Preferred Drug List)
- Rule Type: PDL

Default Approval Period

1 year

References

10. USPDI, Micromedex; 2021.
11. Facts and Comparisons eAnswers (online); 2021 Clinical Drug Information, LLC.