Drug/Drug Class: Beta Adrenergic Agents – Nebulized PDL Edit  
First Implementation Date: December 15, 2004  
Revised Date: July 9, 2020  
Prepared For: MO HealthNet  
Prepared By: MO HealthNet/Conduent  
Criteria Status: ☒ Existing Criteria  
☐ Revision of Existing Criteria  
☐ New Criteria

Executive Summary

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

Why Issue Selected: Short-acting beta-agonists work quickly to relieve asthma symptoms. They relax the smooth muscles around the airways and are prescribed to use as needed to relieve shortness of breath most commonly associated with asthma. Overuse of these products is common, and indicates that asthma is poorly controlled and that long-term control medications should be added or adjusted.

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

Program-Specific Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preferred Agents</th>
<th>Non-Preferred Agents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Albuterol Sulfate</td>
<td>• Levalbuterol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Xopenex®</td>
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</tbody>
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Type of Criteria:  
- ☐ Increased risk of ADE  
- ☒ Preferred Drug List  
- ☐ Appropriate Indications  
- ☐ Clinical Edit  
- ☐ Only Administrative Databases  
- ☒ Databases + Prescriber-Supplied

Setting & Population

- Drug class for review: Beta Adrenergic Agents – Nebulized  
- Age range: All appropriate MO HealthNet participants

Approval Criteria

- Failure to achieve desired therapeutic outcomes with trial on 1 preferred agent  
  - Documented trial period of preferred agent  
  - Documented ADE/ADR to preferred agent
Denial Criteria

- Lack of adequate trial on required preferred agent
- Therapy will be denied if no approval criteria are met

Required Documentation

Laboratory Results:  
MedWatch Form:  
Progress Notes:  
Other:

Disposition of Edit

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

Default Approval Period

1 year

References

4. USPDI, Micromedex; 2020.
5. Facts and Comparisons eAnswers (online); 2020 Clinical Drug Information, LLC.