the DBL report

Issue #65, February 2012

An Official Accompaniment to the Alberta Health and Wellness Drug Benefit List (AHWDBL) produced by Alberta Blue Cross

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics (ECDET)

In this issue:

Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics met on November 22, 2011. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for 30 Drug Products.

In addition to Drug Products reviewed by the Expert Committee, 71 generic Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *AHWDBL* effective December 1, 2011. The following are highlights of recent changes to the *AHWDBL* and other topics of general interest. A complete list of changes, as well as the full *AHWDBL* may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html.

Highlights of New Interchangeable (IC) Groupings

Addition of the following Drug Products to the *AHWDBL* has resulted in the creation of New IC Groupings, effective December 1, 2011:

- **APO-MONTELUKAST** (montelukast sodium) (APX) **10 mg tablet**
- **PMS-MONTELUKAST** (montelukast sodium) (PMS) **4 mg and 5 mg chewable tablets and 10 mg tablet**
- **SANDOZ MONTELUKAST**(montelukast sodium) (SDZ) **4 mg and 5 mg chewable tablets, 4 mg granules and 10 mg tablet,**
- **TEVA-MONTELUKAST FC** (montelukast sodium) (TEV) **4 mg and 5 mg chewable tablets and 10 mg tablet**

A complete list of changes, as well as the full AHWDBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html.
Please refer to the current AHWDBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*

ABC 81171 (11/2011)

Highlights of IC Products Added

Submissions for the following Drug Products did not meet the requirements for the Interchangeable Expedited Review process. Accordingly, these Drug Products were forwarded to the Expert Committee for a Full Review, and have subsequently been recommended for addition to the *AHWDBL* in interchangeable groupings, effective February 1, 2012:

- **MAR-CITALOPRAM** (citalopram hydrobromide) (MAR) **20 mg and 40 mg tablets**
- **MAR-ONDANSETRON** (ondansetron hydrochloride) (MAR) **4 mg and 8 mg tablets**
- **TARO-CARBAMAZEPINE** (carbamazepine) (TAR) **100 mg/5 mL suspension**

Highlights of Additional Products Added

The following Drug Product has been recommended for addition to the *AHWDBL*:

- **TOBI PODHALER** (tobramycin) (NOV) **28 mg inhalation capsule**
- **BENZTROPINE OMEGA** (benztropine mesylate) (OMG) **1 mg/mL injection**

Highlights of Products Not Added

The following Drug Products have not been recommended for addition to the *AHWDBL*:

- **JAMP-FOLIC ACID** (folic acid) (JPC) **5 mg tablet** was not recommended to be added as the Manufacturer failed to provide sufficient evidence of interchangeability with an innovator Drug Product.
- **LITHMAX** (lithium carbonate) (AAP) **300 mg sustained-release tablet** was reviewed as a resubmission. **LITHMAX** (lithium carbonate) **300 mg** was not recommended for addition as the Manufacturer failed to provide sufficient evidence of interchangeability with the innovator Drug Product.

The following Drug Products have not been recommended for addition to the *AHWDBL* following review by the Common Drug Review (CDR) process:

- **BUTRANS** (buprenorphine) (PUR) **5 mcg/hr and 10 mcg/hr and 20 mcg/hr transdermal patch**
- **DAXAS** (roflumilast) (NYC) **500 mcg tablet**
- **NUCYNTA CR** (tapentadol HCl) (JAI) **50 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg, 200 mg and 250 mg extended-release tablet**
- **RESTASIS** (cyclosporine) (ALL) **0.05% oph emulsion**
- **VICTOZA** (liraglutide) (NNA) **6 mg/ml pen injection syringe**
- **ZENHALE** (formoterol fumarate dihydrate/ mometasone furoate) (MFC) **50 mcg/5 mcg/dose metered dose aerosol**

A complete list of changes, as well as the full AHWDBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html.
****Please refer to the current AHWDBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).****