the ADBL report

Issue #74, July 2013

An Official Accompaniment to the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) produced by Alberta Blue Cross

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics (ECDET)

In this issue:

Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities

The Alberta Health Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics met on May 21 & 22, 2013. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for fifty-seven (57) Drug Products for potential listing, or change in listing status, on the *ADBL*. The Committee also considered information for a number of supplementary assessments of coverage status of thirteen (13) Drug Products.

In addition, twenty-four (24) generic Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL*.

The following are highlights of recent changes to the *ADBL* effective July 3, 2013. A complete list of changes and the full *ADBL* can be found at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html

Highlights of New Products Added

- **LIDEMOL** (fluocinonide) (VLP) **0.05% emollient cream** & **LIDEX** (flucocinonide) (VLP) **0.05% cream, gel & ointment** are indicated for topical therapy of corticosteroid responsive acute and chronic skin eruptions where an anti-inflammatory, anti-allergenic and anti-pruritic activity in the topical management is required. Each of these Drug Products was added to the *ADBL* as they provide a cost advantage.

Highlights of Products Originally Reviewed via the Common Drug Review (CDR)

In keeping with the recommendations from the CDR, the following Drug Products have not been added to the *ADBL*:

- **ALOXI** (palonosetron) (EIS) **0.5 mg tablet**
- **APPRILON** (doxycycline monohydrate) (GAL) **40 mg modified-release capsule**
- **ESBRIET** (pirfenidone) (INC) **267 mg capsule**

A complete list of changes, as well as the full ADBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html.

Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*

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Highlights of Interchangeable Drug Products Added

Addition of the following Drug Products to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of New IC Groupings, effective July 3, 2013:

- **pms-Colchicine** (colchicine) (PMS) **0.6 mg tablet**

The following are Established IC Drug Products, added to the *ADBL*, effective July 3, 2013 after a Full Review by the Expert Committee:

- **AVIANE 21 & 28** (levonorgestrel/ethinyl estradiol) (TEV) **100 mcg/20 mcg tablets**
- **ACCEL-CITALOPRAM** (citalopram hydrobromide) (ACP) **20 mg & 40 mg tablets**
- **FREYA 21 & 28** (desogestrel/ethinyl estradiol) (MYP) **0.15 mg/0.03 mg tablets**
- **JAMP-AMLODIPINE** (amlodipine besylate) (JPC) **2.5 mg tablet**
- **MAR-MONTELUKAST** (montelukast sodium) (MAR) **4 mg & 5 mg chewable tablets and 10 mg tablet**

Highlights of Natural Health Products Added

The following Natural Health Products (NHPs) have been added to the *ADBL*:

- **MAGNESIUM-ODAN** (magnesium gluceptate) (ODN) 100 mg/mL oral solution
- **ODAN-K 20** (potassium chloride) (ODN) **20 mEq tablet**

Highlights of Line Extension Drug Products Added

The following are Drug Products, added to the *ADBL*, effective July 3, 2013 after a Full Review by the Expert Committee:

- **ESTROGEL PROPAK** (estradiol-17 beta/progesterone) (MFC) **0.06% transdermal gel/100 mg capsule**, a co-packaged line extension to ESTROGEL transdermal gel and PROMETRIUM capsules, was recommended to be listed on the *ADBL* as this Drug Product provides a cost advantage relative to Estrogel and Prometrium prescribed and dispensed separately.
- **PENTASA** (mesalazine) (FEI) **1 g extended-release tablet** was submitted as a Line Extension submission to the currently listed 500 mg extended-release tablet. The Expert Committee recommended that this Drug Product be listed on the *ADBL* as it provides a therapeutic advantage consisting of a reduced pill burden for patients.
- **XEOMIN** (clostridium botulinum neurotoxin type A (150KD)) (MPC) **50 unit/vial injection** was submitted as a Line Extension submission to the currently listed 100 unit/vial injection. The Expert Committee recommended that this Drug Product be listed on the *ADBL* as it provides a cost advantage.

Highlights of Criteria Changes

The criteria for coverage via Special Authorization have been revised for the following Drug Products:

- **CARNITOR** (levocarnitine) (PPC) **100 mg/mL oral solution, 200 mg/mL injection & 330 mg tablet**

A complete list of changes, as well as the full ADBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html.

****Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).****