

Formulary Alert!



Washtenaw Health Plan
555 Towner Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

To: Washtenaw Health Plan Providers/Pharmacies
From: Elizabeth Skrzypek RN, WHP Nurse Coordinator
Date: 7/15/09

Re: Changes in the WHP formulary

Due to recent funding cuts, the WHP is making several changes to the WHP drug formulary effective August 1, 2009

- **Plavix, Diovan and Diovan HCT** will be removed from the Plan A and B drug formulary. All members currently taking these drugs and their Providers have been sent notification and have been given information on how to apply to the Patient Assistance Program (PAP) through the manufacturer which is available at www.needymeds.com. Newly prescribed members should call the WHP Nurse Coordinator to request a one (1) month override while they apply to the PAP.
- **Blood glucose strips**
 - We will only be covering the Bayer Breeze 2 and Contour blood glucose strips and lancets. Our members are eligible for free meters by filling out the order form which can be downloaded from <http://whp.ewashtenaw.org>; click "formulary materials" and fax to 4-D Pharmacy at 248-540-9811. Members currently using other strips and lancets have been sent a letter notifying them of the change and will be "grandfathered" until 9-31-09. If you would like to have a supply of free Ascencia glucometers in your office/pharmacy please contact me and I can have our Bayer representative contact you.
 - There will be quantity limits placed on blood glucose strips: 100/month and also on Insulin: 3 vials/month.
- **For Plan B only** we will be removing many of the drugs that are available at the pharmacy discount programs for \$4.00/month or \$10.00/90 day supply (see attached information). Several other pharmacies who do not advertise discount drug programs say that they will match the price of drugs received at other pharmacies. This is a cost savings to our Plan B members as well as the WHP because it is cheaper than our present copays which are \$5.00/generic and \$7.00/brand. For example, Metformin will no longer be covered under the WHP B formulary but our members can be directed to one of the low cost pharmacy programs and can get a one (1) month supply for \$4.00 and a 90 day supply for \$10.00 which is a savings of \$1.00/month or \$5.00/90 days.
- **For Plan B only**, we will be removing all OTC drugs except for Prilosec OTC.

The WHP Formulary will be updated to reflect these changes as of August 1, 2009 and is available on the website at <http://whp.ewashtenaw.org>. I hope this information is helpful. If you have any other questions or suggestions, please call or email me using the contact information listed below.

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