

QUARTERLY UPDATE TO THE 49TH EDITION OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FORMULARY

NEW LISTINGS

EXCEPTION DRUG STATUS:

Effective May 1, 2000 the following products will be available under EDS subject to the indicated criteria.

- **Ciprofloxacin/hydrocortisone, otic suspension, 0.2%/1% (Cipro HC-ALC)**

This product is indicated for the treatment of acute diffuse bacterial external otitis caused by susceptible strains of *S. aureus*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *P. mirabilis*.

Exception Drug Status Criteria:

For treating external otitis in patients who have failed previous treatment with other listed otic drops.

- **Salmeterol xinafoate/fluticasone propionate, powder for inhalation (package) 50ug/100ug, 50ug/250ug, 50ug/500ug (Advair Diskus-GLA)**

This combination inhaler provides convenience for patients by combining two medications in a single device.

Exception Drug Status Criteria:

For the treatment of asthma when used in patients on concurrent steroid therapy. It is important that these patients also have access to a short acting beta-2 agonist for symptomatic relief.

- **Risedronate sodium tablet, 30mg (Actonel-PGA)**

Risedronate is an oral bisphosphonate indicated for induction of remission in patients with Paget's Disease of the bone. An advantage of this drug over other therapies is a shorter treatment course of 2 months.

Exception Drug Status Criteria:

For the treatment of Paget's Disease.

- **Rizatriptan benzoate, tablet, 5mg, 10mg (Maxalt-MSD); wafer, 10mg (Maxalt RPD-MSD)**

Rizatriptan is a selective 5-hydroxytryptamine _{1B/1D} receptor agonist indicated for the acute treatment of migraine attacks with or without aura, in adults.

Exception Drug Status Criteria:

For treatment of migraine headaches; same criteria as Imitrex, Zomig, & Amerge.

- **Repaglinide, tablet, 0.5mg, 1mg, 2mg (GlucoNorm-NOO)**

Repaglinide is a short-acting insulin secretagogue, which lowers blood glucose levels by stimulating the release of insulin from the pancreas.

Exception Drug Status Criteria:

For the management of type 2 diabetes in patients intolerant or refractory to treatment with sulfonylureas and metformin.

**100 day Rx
Cost Comparison**

	Dosage	Rx Cost ¹
GlucoNorm 0.5mg tablet	TID	\$96.66
GlucoNorm 1mg tablet	TID	\$100.24
GlucoNorm 2mg tablet	TID	\$103.82

glyburide 2.5mg tablet	TID	\$14.46
glyburide 5mg tablet	TID	\$19.95
metformin 500mg tablet	TID	\$33.39

¹ Includes mark-up and maximum allowable dispensing fee of \$7.15.

Product Update:

- **Flavoxate HCl, tablet, 200mg (Urispas-PMS)**

The November 1999 update bulletin indicated that this product was to be delisted effective July 1, 2000. The manufacturer has provided additional data to establish its effectiveness. Therefore, requests for Exception Drug Status will continue to be authorized for this product.

**NEW DOSAGE
FORMS/STRENGTHS OF
EXCEPTION DRUG STATUS**

AGENTS: Covered under the same criteria as the currently listed forms:

- Didanosine, powder for oral solution, 4g (Videx-BMY)
- Formoterol fumarate, powder for inhalation (package), 6ug/dose (Oxeze Turbuhaler-AST)
- Interferon alfa-2b/ribavirin, 15 million IU/mL (multi-dose pen) albumin (human) free/200mg capsule (package) (Rebetron-SCH)
- Leuprolide acetate, depot injection, 11.25mg (3-month SR) (Lupron Depot-ABB)
- Nadroparin calcium, syringe, 19,000IU/mL (0.6mL, 0.8mL, 1mL) (Fraxiparine Forte-SAW)
- Ritonavir, soft elastic capsule, 100mg (Norvir SEC-ABB) –EDS effective Feb. 7/2000

**NEW DOSAGE
FORMS/STRENGTHS OF LISTED
AGENTS:**

- Buspirone, tablet, 5mg (pms-Buspirone-PMS)
- Cerivastatin sodium, tablet, 0.4mg (Baycol-BAY)
- Metformin, tablet, 850mg (Glucophage-HMR, Nu-Metformin-NXP, Gen-Metformin-GPM, Novo-Metformin-NOP, Apo-Metformin-APX)
- Methylphenidate HCl, tablet, 5mg (pms-Methylphenidate-PMS)
- Metoclopramide HCl, tablet, 5mg (pms-Metoclopramide-PMS)
- Risperidone, tablet, 0.25mg, 0.5mg (Risperdal-JAN)
- Simvastatin, tablet, 80mg (Zocor-MSD)

**SOME OF THE PRODUCTS
CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW
BY THE FORMULARY
COMMITTEE:**

- Diazepam, rectal gel, 5mg/mL (Diastat-DPY)
- Irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide, tablet, 150mg/12.5mg, 300mg/12.5mg (Avalide-BMY)
- Levonorgestrel, tablet, 0.75mg (Plan B-PAL)
- Losartan potassium/hydrochlorothiazide, tablet, 100mg/25mg (Hyzaar DS-MSD)
- Pramipexole dihydrochloride, tablet, 0.5mg (Mirapex-BOE)

**PRODUCTS REVIEWED AND
NOT RECOMMENDED FOR
LISTING:**

- **Becaplermin, gel, 0.01% (Regranex-JAN)**

The clinical benefit of this product does not justify the cost of the product. It was noted that there was a lack of long term safety data and that good wound care alone resulted in substantial wound healing. It was also noted that the potential for inappropriate use of this product is significant.

- **Calcitonin salmon, nasal spray, 200IU/dose (Miacalcin-NVR)**

It was noted this product is less effective than bisphosphonates in the treatment of osteoporosis.

- **Ethinyl estradiol/L-Norgestrel, tablet (kit), 0.05mg/0.25mg (Preven Emergency Contraceptive Kit-RBP)**

This product is no more effective than the currently available agent and therefore the incremental cost is not justified.

- **Insulin human biosynthetic, pre-filled syringe, 100u/mL (5x3mL) (NovolinSet ge Toronto, NovolinSet ge NPH, NovolinSet ge 30/70-NOO)**

These products offer no therapeutic advantage in relation to the incremental cost for the device.

- **Pinaverium bromide, tablet, 50mg, 100mg (Dicetel-SLV)**

Documentation provided did not show adequate evidence of therapeutic efficacy.

- **Tizanidine HCl, tablet, 4mg (Zanaflex-DPY)**

Documentation provided did not demonstrate a significant advantage over listed products relative to the incremental cost.

- **Trimebutine maleate, tablet, 100mg, 200mg (Modulon-AXC)**

Documentation provided did not show adequate evidence of therapeutic efficacy.

- **Zanamivir, powder for inhalation (disk), 5mg (Relenza-GLA)**

The clinical benefit does not justify the cost of this product. Currently, no studies are available to assess its use in high risk patients who have the potential to benefit the most.

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