



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services
New Jersey Drug Utilization Review Board

BULLETIN

Volume No. 01 No. 06

June 2009

TO: Physicians, Advanced Practice Nurses, Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers- **For Action**
Providers of Pharmaceutical Services, Health Maintenance Organizations – **For Action**

SUBJECT: **Clinical News from the New Jersey Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB)**

PURPOSE: To provide practitioners useful clinical information that may be helpful to the prescribing of prescription drugs

BACKGROUND: The DURB serves as an advisory board to the New Jersey Department of Human Services and the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. The Board's responsibilities include recommending clinical standards based, in part, on the evaluation of prescription drug use by participants in the State's prescription drug programs. The Board is also responsible for disseminating information that the Board has determined would encourage appropriate drug utilization.

ACTION: Attached is a discussion regarding changes to the coverage policy for **Nicotine Replacement Therapy**. This bulletin can be viewed electronically by visiting <http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/durb.html>. The Board welcomes your comments regarding this bulletin. Send comments to www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/durb.html. The Subject should read, "DURB Comments."

RETAIN THIS BULLETIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services
New Jersey Drug Utilization Review Board

ATTENTION

OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) NICOTINE REPLACEMENT THERAPY PRODUCTS ARE NOW COVERED FOR FEE-FOR-SERVICE MEDICAID CLIENTS

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) provides coverage of legend smoking cessation products and non-legend nicotine replacement therapies.

COVERED OTC PRODUCTS:

Nicotine replacement patch (7mg, 14mg, and 21mg)

Nicotine replacement lozenge (2mg and 4 mg)

Nicotine replacement gum (2mg and 4mg)

COVERED PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS:

Zyban/Bupropion SR/Bupropion XL (150mg and 300mg)

Nicotine Inhaler

Nicotine Nasal Spray

Chantix

Coverage Guidelines:

- **Must be 18 years of age and older**
- **Coverage for nicotine replacement patches will be approved for those 13 years of age and older**
- **Combination treatment modalities will be approved as per evidence-based US Public Health Services Treatment Guidelines**
- **Extended treatment duration (i.e. beyond 24 weeks) will require prior authorization**

Reimbursement Restrictions

Legend and non-legend drugs eligible for reimbursement by the State of New Jersey are those where a manufacturer has entered into a rebate agreement with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) (NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid beneficiaries) and/or where a manufacturer has entered into a rebate agreement with the State of New Jersey (Work First New Jersey beneficiaries).

Ultimately, if one National Drug Code (NDC) is not covered because of rebate status, the pharmacist should inquire with Medicaid to determine which NDC should be used. It is imperative that the NDC billed to Medicaid is the NDC dispensed.

In response to concerns regarding which OTC nicotine replacement therapy products are covered by DMAHS, the Division is making available the services of the Unisys Medical Exception Process (MEP) unit to assist pharmacy providers in making a product selection.

Please note that the Pharmaceutical Assistance Program to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD), New Jersey Senior Gold (NJSG), and the AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP) DO NOT provide coverage for non-legend products.

ACTION: Providers are encouraged to contact the Unisys MEP unit at 1-877-888-2939 to determine which nicotine replacement therapy products are eligible for coverage by DMAHS drug benefit programs.

Reminders:

Error code 549: Drug Not Payable - No Rebate Agreement, applies to NJFC/Medicaid FFS beneficiaries

Error Code 570: Drug Not Payable - No Rebate Agreement, applies to WFNJ/GA beneficiaries

If you have any questions regarding this Newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact Unisys Provider Services at 1-800-776-6334 or the Medicaid Hotline at 1-800-356-1561.