October 1, 2019

The Ohio Department of Medicaid, in partnership with the Medicaid managed care plans (MCPs), is moving toward creating a unified preferred drug list (UPDL). The goals of this initiative include:

- Reducing administrative burden for providers by simplifying and streamlining the prescribing and prior authorization processes.
- Allowing for a standard process across Ohio Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) and the MCPs to support population health initiatives.
- Clinical coordination of care for Ohio’s Medicaid population.
- Minimizing member movement across MCPs.

Members who receive both Medicaid and Medicare benefits (MyCare Ohio) will not be affected by this change.

Starting January 1, 2020, all Ohio Medicaid MCPs will prefer the same medications and use the same prior authorization criteria for all drug categories. At this time, medications in the following categories currently prescribed to members will allow continued coverage without the need for additional prior authorization: HIV, Hepatitis C, Anticonvulsants, Antidepressants, Antipsychotics, Hemophilia, Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension, Alzheimer’s, and Multiple Sclerosis.

The Unified PDL may be found here or by visiting pharmacy.medicaid.ohio.gov/drug-coverage.

For any questions regarding the UPDL or for more information, please contact MEDICAID_PHARMACY@medicaid.ohio.gov.