



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Bob Wise
Governor

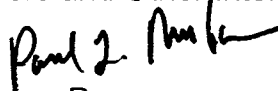
Office of the Secretary
State Capitol Complex, Building 3, Room 206
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
Telephone: (304) 558-0684 Fax: (304) 558-1130

Paul L. Nusbaum
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 3, 2002

TO: Participating Drug Manufacturers and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Paul L. Nusbaum, Secretary 
Department of Health and Human Resources

RE: Preferred Drug List for West Virginia Medicaid

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Bureau for Medical Services, is extending its prior authorization program to establish a preferred drug list (PDL). In response to the rapid increase in pharmacy expenditures, the Department worked with legislative leadership to develop House Bill 4666 giving authority to the Secretary of DHHR to create a preferred drug list and seek supplemental rebates for Medicaid-covered drugs. The intent of this bill is to reduce the rate of growth in pharmacy expenditures while providing clinically sound drug therapy for West Virginia Medicaid recipients.

To assist the Department in the development and maintenance of the preferred drug list, I have appointed a Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee (P & T Committee). This advisory committee is composed of eleven actively practicing health care providers.

The Bureau for Medical Services has also contracted the services of Provider Synergies L.L.C., to assist DHHR in PDL management and supplemental rebate contracting. All drug information, review materials (excluding marketing and promotional material), and financial information for supplemental rebates must be submitted to the attention of Todd Wandstrat, PharmD to the following address:

Provider Synergies, L.L.C.
Lakeside Center
6279 Tri-Ridge Boulevard
Suite 209
Loveland, Ohio 45140

Phone: (513) 774-8500
Fax: (513) 697-5762

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A series of P & T meetings will commence in September 2002 to begin reviewing therapeutic classes of drugs for the PDL. Meeting announcements, agendas, and other pertinent information will be posted on the Bureau for Medical Services' website at www.wvdhhr.org/bms.

We at the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, and the Bureau for Medical Services, look forward to working with you as we move forward with this new program. Please refer all questions you may have to Provider Synergies.

PLN:pak