

Inside this issue: Subsidy Changes and the Tamper Resistant Paper Policy

## CareLink Subsidy Changes

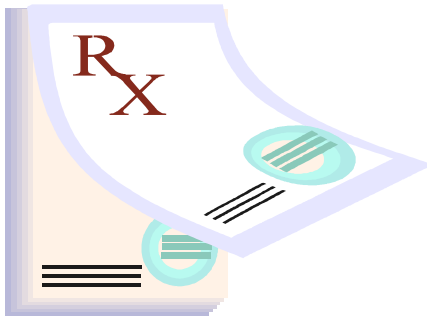
1. **Aripiprazole (Abilify®)**- The 2 mg tablet was added to the UHS formulary. **All standard release tablets are subsidized when P & T restriction criteria are met** (Restricted to Psychiatry and Dr. David Katerndahl [pending Psychiatric consult for non-urgent treatment of patients] for any psychiatric indication. Use for the management of dementia, delirium, or psychotic process is restricted to the following Geriatricians: David Espino, Jeannae Dergance, Robert Parker, Jim Kvale, Lili Oakes).
2. **Chlorhexidine oral rinse, generic**- CareLink will subsidize chlorhexidine oral rinse without restrictions.
3. **Chlorpheniramine, Codeine, and Pseudoephedrine (Novahistine® DH)**- The manufacturers have stopped making generic Novahistine® DH. This cough and cold preparation is no longer available and UHS pharmacies are out of stock. There are no alternative antitussives on the UHS formulary.
4. **Diltiazem, generic**- Immediate-release diltiazem is now restricted to inpatient services. CareLink will continue to subsidize the extended-release formulations.
5. **Felodipine (Plendil®)**- Felodipine was removed from the formulary and will no longer be subsidized by CareLink. Refills for felodipine will be honored, but all new prescriptions should be written for generic amlodipine.
6. **Fondaparinux (Arixtra®)**- P & T restrictions were removed for fondaparinux (formerly restricted to Hematology Services). CareLink will subsidize fondaparinux pending obtainment through a Medication Assistance Program (MAP) and for patients who do not qualify for the MAPs.
7. **Nifedipine extended-release**- CareLink will subsidize nifedipine extended-release tablets without restrictions.
8. **Nisoldipine (Sular®)**- Nisoldipine was removed from the UHS formulary and will no longer be subsidized by CareLink. Refills for nisoldipine will be honored, but all new prescriptions should be written for generic amlodipine.
9. **Rosuvastatin (Crestor®)**- CareLink will subsidize rosuvastatin after failure of at least one generic statin (lovastatin, pravastatin, or simvastatin) or as a switch from the more expensive atorvastatin (Lipitor®).
10. **Sumatriptan (Imitrex®)**- CareLink will subsidize sumatriptan 100 mg (as well as the 25 mg and 50 mg) pending the obtainment through a MAP and for patients who do not qualify for the MAPs.
11. **Trandolapril (Mavik®)**- Trandolapril was removed from the UHS formulary and will no longer be subsidized by CareLink.

**Allergy products:** Loratadine and cetirizine (Zyrtec®) are manufactured generically and are now over-the-counter products. Allegra®, although it still requires a prescription, is also available in generic form in both the 60 mg strength and the 180 mg strength. UHS only carries the 60 mg, and it is no longer efficient to process it through the MAP. Zyrtec® has been obtainable through the MAP in the past, but because of the latest schedule change it will no longer be carried in our pharmacies (our pharmacies do not stock over-the-counter items). CareLink has never subsidized antihistamines or over-the-counter products. Therefore, patients should be referred to outside pharmacies for the over-the-counter products, or they will be asked to pay full price for fexofenadine.

**New Vendor Policy:** a new vendor policy has been approved by the P & T Committee. Please see the April P & T formulary action memo for details.



*Any prescriber who feels a regimen warrants special consideration, please contact:  
Brandi Kelly, Pharm.D., Manager, Pharmacy Programs-CareLink at  
358-3180, Brandi.Kelly@uhs-sa.com OR CareLink Authorization at 358-3224*



### Medicaid Tamper Resistant Prescription Law Effective April 1, 2008

As has been communicated by Medicaid, the Medicaid Tamper Resistant Prescription requirements are effective April 1, 2008. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee of UHS has determined that **all** written and electronically processed prescriptions should be imprinted on tamper resistant paper. This policy will be enforced for all UHS patients utilizing UHS pharmacies, regardless of the funding (CareLink patients are included). Prescriptions that are transmitted from the prescriber to the pharmacy verbally or through fax are not impacted by the statute, and so those methods may be used as alternatives to a written prescription.

To be considered tamper resistant on April 1, 2008, a prescription pad must contain the following three characteristics:

1. one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form;
2. one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription pad by the prescriber;
3. one or more industry recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms.

Please make note when writing or electronically processing prescriptions for **CareLink** members that their **prescriptions will not be filled at UHS pharmacies if they are not written or electronically imprinted on tamper resistant paper**. Prescriptions written prior to today are subject to this policy as well. Therefore, it may be necessary for pharmacists to call the prescribing practitioners to obtain verbal confirmations for prescriptions presented to the pharmacies today and after.

In order to ensure patients are not caught in the middle, we appreciate your cooperation in complying with this new policy.



Congratulations to Lucinda Rangel, CPhT, Registered, CareLink's Pharmacy Reimbursement Specialist. She was named the UHS employee of the YEAR (technical category). Way to go, Lucinda!