

# The Pharmacy Connection

A forum for pharmacy related news and updates for DMH programs

December 1, 2017

## A Message from Pharmacy Services



Happy Holidays from Pharmacy Services! We would like to welcome our new Pharmacy Services Chief III, Edward Jai. At this time of the year, Pharmacy Services would like to extend best wishes to you during this holiday season.

In the upcoming year, we will be expanding the medical team with 13 clinical pharmacists in certain clinics. Clinical pharmacists will be able to provide continuing care and optimal medication management for referred clients. They will perform functions and procedures in a clinic in accordance with policies, procedures, and protocols. Clinical pharmacists duties will include: 1) providing a more cost-effective means of maintenance medication management, 2) Increasing client adherence, 3) maximizing therapeutic benefits of medication and increasing periods of clinical stability, 4) improving symptom and side effect management, 5) increasing client's self-medication and symptom management abilities, and 6) improving client satisfaction.

### Non-formulary Medication Usage

**Invega Sustenna/Risperdal Consta** - Requires client can tolerate at least 2 mg per day of oral risperidone or 3 mg per day of oral Invega. Client must also have documented trial/failure of 2 formulary generic antipsychotics.

**Invega Trinza** - Requires client to be compliant on Invega Sustenna for at least 4 months.

**Abilify Maintena** - Client has tolerated at least 14 days of oral aripiprazole with documented non-compliance.

**Aristada ER** - Documented non-compliance with trial/failure of 2 formulary generic oral antipsychotics.

**Invega ER** - Documented non-compliance with trial/failure of 2 formulary generic oral antipsychotics, one being risperidone.

**Rexulti** - *Schizophrenia*: Documented non-compliance with trial/failure of 2 formulary generic oral antipsychotics, one being risperidone. *Major depressive order*: Documented non-compliance with trial/failure of 2 formulary generic oral antipsychotics, one being aripiprazole.

For a more detailed list of criteria for each drug, please see the powerpoint on the DMH internet website under pharmacy.

### Prior Authorization Request

A new prescription drug prior authorization request form will now be used for non-formulary medication requests. Please use this new form beginning January 1, 2018. The form can be found on the DMH internet website under pharmacy.

### Formulary Management

New medications added to the DMH formulary beginning January 1, 2018:

Neurontin (Gabapentin): 100 mg, 300 mg, 400 mg, 600 mg, 800 mg

Minipress (Prazosin): 1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg

### Clinic Administered Drug

Please see the attached document on the pharmacy website on how to order clinic administered drugs.

As always, should you encounter any issues with OrderConnect do not hesitate to contact the OrderConnect team at [Helpdesk@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:Helpdesk@dmh.lacounty.gov). Once again, Happy Holidays to all!



To access previous bulletins, go to the DMH Pharmacy webpage: [http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/clinical\\_tools/](http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/clinical_tools/)

