Dear Prescriber,

The New York State Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Program retrospectively reviews the prescribing and dispensing of outpatient prescription medications in order to ensure that prescriptions are appropriate, medically necessary, and are not likely to result in adverse medical outcomes. At the December 9, 2010 Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board Meeting, the Board members reviewed proton pump inhibitor utilization within the NY Medicaid program.

After considering clinical information, utilization data, and the concerns raised by the membership, including safety, the potential for adverse events, and the risk of misuse and/or diversion, the Board recommended frequency, quantity and duration limits for proton pump inhibitors.

The frequency, quantity and duration limits are based on FDA approved dosing and administration labeling as follows:

- **Duration limits:**
  - Mild/moderate GERD, acute healing of duodenal/gastric ulcers (including NSAID-induced): 60 days
  - Maintenance treatment of duodenal ulcers: 365 days
  - H. pylori: 14 days

- **Quantity limits:**
  - GERD, erosive esophagitis, healing and maintenance of duodenal/gastric ulcers (including NSAID-induced), prevention of NSAID-induced ulcers: once daily dosing (30 units every 30 days).
  - Hypersecretory conditions, Barrett's esophagitis, H. pylori, refractory GERD: twice daily dosing (60 units every 30 days).

New York State Medicaid pharmacy claim data indicates that you have written prescription(s) for proton pump inhibitors. Please consider this information when prescribing proton pump inhibitors, as the DUR Program is concerned that there may be utilization of this medication that is not consistent with FDA approved dosing and administration.

Please consider clinical appropriateness and cost effectiveness when prescribing proton pump inhibitors. In presenting this information to you, the Drug Utilization Review Program recognizes that safe and effective pharmacotherapy depends on the assessment of the patient’s entire clinical profile. We ask that you consider the information provided regarding the prescribing of proton pump inhibitors for your patients.

Thank you for your professional assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

John F. Naioti, Jr., R.Ph.
Manager, Drug Utilization Review Program