



**MEDICAID DRUG UTILIZATION REVIEW INTERVENTION NOTICE:
METFORMIN**

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. The DUR Board has reviewed metformin utilization within the NY Medicaid program.

Current guidelines and consensus statements published by several organizations recommend metformin as optimal first-line pharmacologic therapy in the management of Type-2 Diabetes Mellitus for patients without contraindications:

- American Diabetes Association (ADA) standards of medical care in diabetes
- American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) clinical practice guidelines
- American College of Physicians (ACP) clinical practice guidelines
- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines
- ADA & European Association for Study of Diabetes (EASD) position statement
- AACE & American College of Endocrinology (ACE) consensus statement
- NYS Medicaid T2DM clinical guidance document

The board recommended step therapy with metformin with or without insulin prior to initiation of other antidiabetic agents unless there is documented contraindication. The board also recommended outreach to prescribers promoting the use of metformin as first-line therapy in the treatment of type-2 diabetes mellitus consistent with clinical guidelines.

New York State Medicaid pharmacy claims data indicate that you have prescribed medication for anti-diabetic therapy. Please consider this information and the clinical appropriateness of anti-diabetic therapy, as the DUR Program promotes utilization of these medications consistent with current treatment guidelines and FDA-approved labeling.

In presenting this information to you, the DUR 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 anti-diabetic therapy for your patients.

Thank you for your professional assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

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