

MEDICATION ASSISTANCE NEWS
Leonard J Chabert Medical Center
May 2009

PATIENT QUALIFICATIONS:

In order to get a prescription filled in our pharmacy you must be a patient of our hospital and receive follow-up care by one of our doctors. Follow up care means you must have a doctor visit within the last year. This has to be validated in CLIQ before the prescription can be filled. This is very important because of the federal guidelines that regulate the 340b program. This program allows us to purchase medications at reduced prices and pass that cost savings on to our patients in our Cost Plus program.

To qualify for the Medication Assistance program, the patient must fall under the category of "free care" and not have any type of insurance that pays or helps pay for their medication. Our medication assistance case workers will help determine if the patient qualifies. All qualification of patients MUST go through our case workers. Please do not fill out forms that patients bring you because this will cause a delay in the patient getting their medication. If they bring you a form to fill out or sign, please refer them to a case worker for screening.

PRESCRIPTIONS:

All prescriptions that are written for maintenance drugs should be written for a 3 month supply. If you are not sure how the medication comes packaged please write 3 month supply for the dispense amount. This will save time processing the patient. If we don't have the 3 month supply written the case worker will have to get you to write another prescription. Most companies will qualify the patient for 1 year, please put the appropriate number of refills or write it with "prn" refills.

IMPROVEMENTS:

We have made the following improvements to the program:

- *Lowered the processing fee to \$6.00 for up to a 90 day supply. Maximum processing fee remains \$36.00 per pharmacy visit.*
- *We will supply diabetic supplies such as blood glucose monitoring strips, syringes and lancets.*
 1. *Lancets-----\$4.00*
 2. *Syringes-----\$9.00*
 3. *Test strips----\$15.00/box of 50*
\$25.00/box of 100

In order to obtain these supplies the patient will need a prescription.

- **Inhalers for Asthma protocol.**
 1. **Albuterol HFA**
 2. **QVAR (Beclomethasone)**

The inhaler prices are subject to change monthly according to the 340b contract. For current pricing please call the pharmacy. Other inhalers are available through medication assistance programs if the patient qualifies such as Symbicort, Combivent and Spiriva. However these must be ordered and take some time to come in.
- **Walk In patients are welcome, however, since the case workers do have appointments scheduled the patient may experience a short wait before they are screened.**

LAST QUARTER PERFORMANCE:

The program experienced a 5.6% increase for the last quarter (Jan.-March) as compared to the previous quarter (Oct.-Dec.).

- **9394 total prescriptions filled for Jan.-March 09**
- **5407 prescriptions filled in Cost plus program (7.5% increase)**
- **3121 prescriptions filled in Medication Assistance (1.8% increase)**
- **208 prescriptions for Medicaid (9.13% increase)**
- **288 prescriptions filled for Community Care (Medicare part D) 26% increase**

Case workers screened:

- **245 new patients**
- **435 return patients**

and ordered 2386 medications.

If you or your patient has any questions about our pharmacy services, please call ext. 2171 or ext. 1892. We want the patient to have accurate information about what's available through our pharmacy.

