

Cardiology

2020 Clinical Integration (CI) Pharmacy Program

The following are Key Recommendations to help increase Payer Quality Scores:

- Order a yearly BMP to assess electrolytes and renal function for patients prescribed ACE, ARB and diuretics!
- Order a yearly digoxin level for patients prescribed digoxin!

The following are Key Recommendations to help manage Opioid Prescribing:

- Prior to initial Rx for CII opioids, check IPMP and document access in patient chart.
- When in doubt, check the Illinois Prescription Monitoring Program!
- Consider non-opioid alternatives as initial therapy: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, gabapentin, and others.
- For acute pain situations, consider limiting the quantity of opioid prescribed to **≤3 day supply** or **#10**.
- Avoid prescribing benzodiazepines or sedative hypnotics to patients prescribed **≥50 MMEs** (morphine milligram equivalents) per day.
- For patients prescribed **≥90 MMEs** per day consider prescribing **naloxone** and educating patient and family on its use.

The following are Key Recommendations to help increase Generic Prescribing:

- Reinforce the value of generics with patients!
- Prescribe 90 day supplies of maintenance (chronic use) medications, where appropriate.

Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARB) Recall:

- To date, select manufacturers and lot numbers of **irbesartan**, **losartan**, and **valsartan** have been included in the FDA recall
- To date, **azilsartan**, **candesartan**, **eprosartan**, **olmesartan**, and **telmisartan**, have not been included in the FDA recall

Generic Name	Brand Name	Low Dose	Medium Dose	High Dose
azilsartan	Edarbi	40mg		80mg
candesartan	Atacand	4-8mg	16mg	32mg
eprosartan	Teveten		600mg	
irbesartan	Avapro	75mg	150mg	300mg
losartan	Cozaar	25mg	50-100mg	
olmesartan	Benicar	<20mg	20mg	40mg
telmisartan	Micardis	20mg	40mg	80mg
valsartan	Diovan	40-80mg	80-160mg	320mg

implicated to date in FDA recall

Note: Blood pressure monitoring and dosage titration may be required following any ARB medication conversion.

- Use generic Crestor (**rosuvastatin**), generic Lipitor (**atorvastatin**), generic Pravachol (**pravastatin**), or generic Zocor (**simvastatin**).
Reserve Livalo for those patients who do not tolerate or respond to one of the generic statins.

Evaluate the need for ongoing PPI therapy!

- Use Nexium 24HR OTC, Prevacid 24HR OTC, Prilosec OTC, or Zegerid OTC as initial therapeutic options.
- Use generic AcipHex (**rabeprazole**), generic Nexium (**esomeprazole**), generic Prevacid (**lansoprazole**), generic Prilosec (**omeprazole**), or generic Protonix (**pantoprazole**) as secondary options.

Avoid Dexilant!

- * *High brand copays may result in the patient not obtaining the medication!*
- *Brand name and Non-Formulary medication prescribing may result in additional call-backs or faxes to the office from pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, and patients!*

The above applies to outpatient prescribing only!