



SW Washington Chapter
NECA

LOCAL UNION 76 I.B.E.W. JOINT TRUST FUNDS

POST OFFICE BOX 1747
DUVALL, WA 98019
(425) 844-9482 or Toll Free (800) 460-2940
FAX: (425) 844-9509



L.U. 76, IBEW

November 5, 2010

Dear Plan Participant,

In an effort to provide members with high quality, cost-effective services, the IBEW Health and Welfare Trust of Southwest Washington will implement three prescription drug programs effective November 1, 2010. The new programs are as follows:

The Sav-Rx Prior Authorization Program. This program manages the use of certain injectable and oral medications. After November 1, 2010 all prescriptions for these medications will require a Prior Authorization.

The Sav-Rx Specialty Drug Program. Specialty pharmaceuticals are some of the true “wonder drugs” in medicine today. The progress that has been made in specialty drugs is phenomenal—changing, improving, even saving lives. These drugs are used to treat many chronic conditions including Multiple Sclerosis, Hepatitis, Cancer, Hemophilia and Rheumatoid Arthritis, just to name a few. We are pleased this option is available for you and that we are able to deliver it to you through the Sav-Rx Specialty Pharmacy.

This program is designed to enhance the delivery of your prescriptions in a cost effective manner. The entire Sav-Rx Specialty Pharmacy team is behind your care - from the mail service crew that works to ensure the timely delivery of your medication to the Sav-Rx Clinical Pharmacists who coordinate your care. They will be there to help you stay on track with your therapy to ensure that you receive the best treatment outcome possible. The Specialty Drug Program enables the health plan to more effectively manage one of the most expensive components of your health care coverage while maximizing the benefits of specialty pharmaceuticals.

After November 1 2010, all Specialty Medications:

- Will require a Prior Authorization prior to filling
- Will have the benefit of receiving your prescription exclusively through the Sav-Rx Specialty Pharmacy after the initial retail fill
- Will be allowed 30 day supplies

Please note that all refills of this medication will need to be processed through the Sav-Rx Specialty Pharmacy.

The Sav-Rx Step Therapy Program. This program is designed to use sequential drug therapy, meaning that drugs for a given condition will be dispensed using the most cost effective sequence, based upon accepted medical guidelines and standards. Participants currently taking a medication covered by this program will not be affected by this new

program, only Participants being prescribed one of these medications for the first time after November 1, 2010 will be affected by this new program.

Medication classes which qualify for the step therapy program include: oral osteoporosis medications, cholesterol-lowering statins, sleep aids, SSRI antidepressants and steroid nasal sprays.

Step therapy for Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPI's) is also covered under this program. The prescription PPI's labeled by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in the United States are Aciphex, Dexilant (formerly Kapidex), Nexium, Prevacid, Prilosec, Pantoprazole, Protonix and generics Omeprazole and Lansoprazole. Prilosec OTC, Prevacid 24HR and Zegerid OTC are also available over the counter at a reduced price per pill.

The PPI Step Therapy Program requires the following steps for patients with heartburn or reflux disorder:

1. Maintenance with H2 Blocker (Pepcid, Zantac, etc.)
2. Utilize Over-the-Counter options: Prilosec OTC, Prevacid 24HR, Zegerid OTC OR Utilize Generic PPI Therapy: Omeprazole AND Lansoprazole
3. Obtain a Prior Authorization for the preferred formulary option: Nexium
4. Obtain a Prior Authorization for non-formulary PPI medications

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact Sav-Rx Customer Service at 800-228-3108 or the Employee Benefit Administrators, Inc. at (800) 460-2940.

Sincerely yours,
The Board of Trustees