

February 2008

«Patient_First_Name» «Patient_Last_Name»
«Patient_Address» «Patient_Address_2»
«Patient_City», «Patient_State» «Patient_Zip_Code»

Dear «Patient_First_Name» «Patient_Last_Name»:

We are writing to provide you with advance notification of changes we are making to the Select Drug Program[®] formulary that may affect you, and to tell you about some of the steps you might wish to take in response to these changes.

CHANGES TO THE FORMULARY

As of April 1, 2008, we will remove some drugs from our list of approved drugs, or formulary. Our records indicate that you or someone covered by your plan currently uses one or more of the medication(s) listed below that are being removed:

«Drug_Name»
«Drug_Name2»

The Select Drug Program formulary includes all generic drugs and some brand drugs that have been selected for their medical effectiveness, safety, and value. The FutureScripts[®] Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, whose members include practicing physicians and pharmacists from the area, regularly reviews the formulary and safe prescribing procedures to ensure their continued effectiveness. Shortly you should receive the general Select Drug Program and Procedures That Support Safe Prescribing update in the Spring 2008 issue of *Update* magazine. You can access the entire formulary guide at www.ibxpress.com.

YOUR OPTIONS

After April 1, you will still be able to obtain the medication being removed from the Select Drug Program formulary, but your cost will be at the highest non-formulary level of cost-sharing. Because of this change, you might wish to discuss the following options with your doctor:

- **Using generic alternatives.** Talk to your doctor about prescribing a generic drug on the formulary. Generic equivalents have the same active chemical ingredients, strength and therapeutic results. There are also therapeutic generic alternatives, which are not the exact chemical equivalents of the brand drugs, but treat the same conditions in the same way as the brand drugs. Generic drugs are covered at the lowest formulary copayment.
- **Using brand alternatives.** Your doctor may decide to prescribe an alternative brand medication on the Select Drug Program[®] formulary list. Brand drugs on the formulary are covered at a higher copayment than generics.
- **Continuing your current medication.** Your doctor may continue to prescribe your current medication. However, you will be responsible for the highest, non-formulary cost-sharing.

(over)

- **Seeking an exception.** Your doctor could decide that it is medically necessary for you to continue taking the brand drug that is scheduled to be removed from the formulary. In that case, your doctor needs to request an exception on your behalf so that you may continue to pay the brand formulary copayment for that drug. Your physician will need to complete a Non-Formulary Exception Request Form. We will review the request once we receive the form. If we approve the request, you will be eligible to obtain the drug at the formulary copayment level.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please discuss any questions or concerns about your prescriptions with your doctor or pharmacist. If you have any questions about your prescription drug program, contact Customer Service at the phone number on your identification card.

We value your membership and appreciate that you have chosen Independence Blue Cross as your health insurance carrier.

Sincerely,



Paul N. Urick, R.Ph.
Senior Vice President
Pharmacy Services



Richard L. Snyder, M.D.
Senior Vice President
Health Services