



Washington State Health Care Authority
Prescription Drug Program

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May 28, 2009

Dear Interested Party:

Following recommendations by the Washington State Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, the Department of Social and Health Services - Health and Recovery Services Administration (DSHS-HRSA), the Health Care Authority – Public Employees Health Plan (PEHP), and the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) have named the following drugs as preferred in their respective therapeutic classes on the Washington State Preferred Drug List:

Short-Acting Beta Agonist Drug Class:

Inhalent:

albuterol sulfate HFA (ProAir HFA®, Proventil HFA®, Ventolin HFA®)

Nebulized:

albuterol sulfate solution *

*generic formulations only

(Effect: removes levalbuterol (Xopenex ®; Xopenex HFA®) from the current PDL and adds ProAir HFA® and Proventil HFA® to the current PDL)

Each agency will use the common PDL according to its benefit structure. The agencies will implement these changes on July 1, 2009.

If you have other questions or comments regarding this announcement, please contact Regina Chacon at 206-521-2027 or by email at regina.chacon@hca.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Duane Thurman
Director, Prescription Drug Programs