



Washington State Health Care Authority
Prescription Drug Program

P.O. Box 91132 • Seattle, Washington 98111-9232
206-521-2027 • FAX 206-521-2001 • TTY 360-923-2701 • www.rx.wa.gov

August 6, 2008

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), and the Health Care Authority - Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) have named the following drugs as preferred in estrogen drug class on the Washington State Preferred Drug List.

Each agency will use the common PDL according to its benefit structure. The agencies will implement these changes **effective October 1, 2008**. This drug class is not part of the Labor & Industries, Workers Compensation benefit.

oral estrogens:

estradiol*
esterified estrogen (Menest[®])

oral estrogen-progestin combinations:

conjugated equine estrogen +
medroxyprogesterone (Premphase[®]; Prempro[®])
estradiol+ norethindrone acetate (Activella)

transdermal estrogens:

estradiol matrix patch*

transdermal estrogen-progestin combinations:

estradiol + levonorgestrol patch (Climara Pro[®])

topical estrogens:

estradiol hemihydrate vaginal tablet (Vagifem[®])

***generic products only**

(EFFECT: adds conjugated equine estrogen + medroxyprogesterone (Premphase[®]; Prempro[®]); estradiol+ norethindrone acetate (Activella); estradiol matrix patch (generic only); estradiol + levonorgestrol patch (Climara Pro[®]); estradiol hemihydrate vaginal tablet (Vagifem[®]) to the current PDL and removes conjugated equine estrogen cream (Premarin vaginal cream[®]) from the current PDL)

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Thurman". The signature is stylized with a large initial "D" and "T".

Duane Thurman
Director, Prescription Drug Programs
Washington State Health Care Authority