November 14, 2016

Dear SoonerCare Provider,

The purpose of this communication is to provide an update regarding coverage of Spiriva® Respimat® (tiotropium bromide). **Beginning December 1, 2016, Spiriva® Respimat® will require prior authorization. The preferred product will be Spiriva® Handihaler®.** The updated criteria can be seen below:

**Spiriva® Respimat® (Tiotropium Bromide Soft Mist Inhaler) Approval Criteria:**

1. Member must have an FDA approved diagnosis of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); and
2. For COPD diagnosis approval requires all of the following:
   a. A patient-specific, clinically significant reason the member is unable to use Spiriva® Handihaler® (tiotropium), which does not require prior authorization.
3. For asthma diagnosis approval requires all of the following:
   a. Member must be 12 years or older; and
   b. Member must have used a high-dose inhaled corticosteroid AND long-acting beta2 agonist (ICS/LABA) product for at least one month immediately prior to request for authorization; and
   c. Member must have had a trial of a leukotriene receptor antagonist for at least one month in the last 90 days; and
   d. Member must have a history of exacerbations despite required trials; and
   e. Member must remain on an ICS or ICS/LABA while on tiotropium therapy; and
      i. Member’s asthma must be considered uncontrolled by prescriber:
         1. Member requires rescue inhaler more than two days per week for reasons other than prevention of exercise induced bronchospasms; or
         2. Member requires oral systemic corticosteroids; or
      ii. Clinical situation warranting initiation of tiotropium therapy in addition to an ICS/LABA due to severity of asthma; and
   f. A clinically significant reason the member is unable to use Spiriva® Handihaler® (tiotropium), which does not require prior authorization.

Members currently utilizing Spiriva® Respimat® will not be “grandfathered” unless they have a current SoonerCare prior authorization in place. Members must switch to Spiriva® HandiHaler®, or submit a manual prior authorization for consideration of reimbursement of the Respimat® formulation. Prior authorization request forms can be found online at [www.okhca.org/forms](http://www.okhca.org/forms) (PHARM-04).

Updated versions of the prior authorization criteria for the COPD and asthma medications can be downloaded from [www.okhca.org/pa](http://www.okhca.org/pa), by selecting “Respiratory.”

Thank you for the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare!