

## Pharmacy Services

(800) 522-0114, option 4

February 10, 2020

**RE: Symbicort® (budesonide/formoterol inhalation aerosol)**

Dear SoonerCare Provider,

The purpose of this fax is to provide updates regarding coverage of Symbicort® (budesonide/formoterol inhalation aerosol).

**Effective February 17, 2020, Symbicort® (budesonide/formoterol inhalation aerosol) will be brand name preferred. The brand formulation is currently available without prior authorization for members 12 years of age and older.** Authorization of the generic budesonide/formoterol inhalation aerosol requires a patient-specific, clinically significant reason why brand formulation Symbicort® inhalation aerosol is not appropriate.

Specific prior authorization criteria and tier charts for Symbicort® can be downloaded from [www.okhca.org/pa](http://www.okhca.org/pa) by clicking on the applicable Therapeutic Category. If a member requires the above medication, prior authorization requests can be submitted for consideration to SoonerCare Pharmacy Services. Prior authorization request forms can be found online at [www.okhca.org/rxforms](http://www.okhca.org/rxforms) (PHARM-04).

**Reminder: Maintenance Drug List**

Many **maintenance medications will process for a 90-day supply** without an override. Consider prescribing for/dispensing 90-day supplies of chronic maintenance medications, where appropriate, in an effort to increase compliance, improve access to care, and reduce copays for SoonerCare members. Most adult members have a 6 prescription limit each month; therefore, prescribing for/dispensing 90-day supplies of chronic maintenance medications will help members who are on multiple medications obtain the maintenance medications necessary. Additionally, a 90-day supply will reduce the SoonerCare member's financial burden as they will pay the same copay for a 90-day or 30-day supply.

Please educate members to use the same pharmacy to fill all of their medications for improved management of their health and their medications. Educate members on the benefits of medication synchronization, in addition to filling 90-day supplies of their chronic maintenance medications.

A complete list of maintenance medications that will process for a 90-day supply can be found on our website at [www.okhca.org/rx](http://www.okhca.org/rx).

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