

Dear Pharmacist

2019 HIV ARV formulary: Discovery Health member support campaign

Discovery Health will support pharmacies with obtaining designated service provider (DSP) status for HIV during April 2019. For all pharmacies that facilitate the change from non-formulary to 2019 formulary ARV products, Discovery Health will waive the non-designated service provider co-payment on 2019 medicine list (formulary) ARV products for members with HIV.

Non-formulary products

As previously communicated, existing members with HIV will have non-formulary co-payment as from 1 July 2019. A non-formulary co-payment has already been applied for newly diagnosed members since 1 January 2019.

Non-designated service providers

From 1 April 2019, a non-DSP co-payment of 20% will apply to pharmacies that do not qualify for HIV DSP participation by not reaching 95% formulary compliance with the 2019 ARV formulary.

Pharmacies are required to follow the process

- Identify your customers who still use 2018 formulary products upfront, a week or two before they need their next month's supply.
- Contact your customers, discuss the change to the formulary product and obtain their telephonic agreement.
- Pharmacists must send a list to HIVCRM_SUPPORT@discovery.co.za, identifying customers, who have agreed to change to the 2019 HIV ARV formulary generics. Remember to also include, their membership numbers, chosen formulary products, strength and quantity.
- Discovery Health will authorise the 2019 formulary product by applying a *product-specific authorisation*. We will confirm when the re-authorisation has been done.
- Ensure you keep sufficient stock of your preferred formulary product submitted for re-authorisation.

Product –Specific authorisation

It is important to understand that the authorisation is "*product-specific*" for the period of the co-payment waiver, thus until 1 April 2019. This means the members will not be able to change between equivalent generics, for example from Rizene to Trenvir (both 2019 formulary items) during April. If you do this, there will be a co-payment.

Please take extra care to ensure your stock levels of the preferred formulary item is sufficient for your customer list. If you encounter stock problems with the chosen formulary item you can contact us at HIVCRM_SUPPORT@discovery.co.za to change the authorisation to the alternative formulary product.

Thank you for your support. We appreciate all efforts you make to promote the use of affordable formulary medicine for our members with HIV.

Regards

HIV department

Discovery Health

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