

Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
CNS Workgroup
Sedative Hypnotic-Non Barbiturate Class on the Preferred Drug List

The workgroup reconvened pursuant to the request from the Committee at the December 5, 2006 meeting. The workgroup was charged with reviewing the Sedative Hypnotic-Non Barbiturate class.

Following discussion and review of the drugs in that class, the workgroup recommends to the full Committee and to the Department the following:

Create three classes for these drugs, and for newer products not yet licensed for this indication:

Benzodiazepine Hypnotics

Non-benzodiazepine Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists

Melatonin-Receptor Agonists Hypnotics

In the Benzodiazepine Hypnotics, remove Chloral hydrate, Chloral hydrate syrup, and diphenhydramine. Keep Estazolam, Flurazepam, Restoril-7.5mg, Temazepam and Triazolam available without prior authorization. Keep the footnote to require PA on Flurazepam, Restoril 7.5mg, Temazepam, and Triazolam for beneficiaries over age 65. All brand name benzodiazepines, Dalmane, Doral, Halcion, ProSom, Restoril,, would require PA.

In the Non-benzodiazepine Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists list Ambien CR without prior authorization. List Ambien, Sonata, Lunesta with prior authorization. Continue to allow Sonata for beneficiaries over age 60 without PA. In performing PA, require a reason why Ambien or Sonata products are unsuitable before authorizing Lunesta.

For the Melatonin Receptor Agonists, list Rozerem with prior authorization.

Continue requiring a clinical edit for all prescriptions where a beneficiary has been on a hypnotic for over three months.