

Pharmacy Services

(800) 522-0114, option 4

November 7, 2017

RE: Brand Xopenex® HFA (levalbuterol) Moved From Tier-2 to Tier-1 – Effective November 20, 2017

Dear SoonerCare Provider,

The purpose of this fax is to provide updates regarding coverage of short-acting beta₂ agonist medications, **effective November 20, 2017**.

The following changes will be made to the Short-Acting Beta₂ Agonist category:

1. Brand Xopenex® HFA (levalbuterol) will be moved from Tier-2 to Tier-1.
 - a. Brand Xopenex® HFA will be available without a prior authorization. Generic levalbuterol HFA will require a prior authorization and a patient-specific, clinically significant reason the member cannot use the brand formulation.

Members currently taking generic levalbuterol HFA will not be “grandfathered” and all members currently receiving generic levalbuterol HFA will require that a manual prior authorization submission be submitted by their prescriber if brand Xopenex® HFA is not appropriate after 11/20/2017. If a member requires generic levalbuterol HFA, prior authorization requests can be submitted for consideration to SoonerCare Pharmacy Services, including a patient-specific, clinically significant reason why the member cannot use brand Xopenex® HFA.

Updated versions of prior authorization criteria for short-acting beta₂ agonist can be downloaded from www.okhca.org/rx-pa, then clicking “Respiratory”.

Prior authorization request forms can be found online at www.okhca.org/forms (PHARM-4).

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