Provider Bulletin

News and Information

October 6, 2020

FDA Alert on Voluntary Recall of Albuterol Inhalers Manufactured by Perrigo

On Sept. 21, 2020, the FDA announced a voluntary recall of all unexpired albuterol inhalers manufactured by Perrigo. This recall was initiated due to possible clogging of the inhaler resulting in patients not receiving enough or any medicine. This recall is to the retail pharmacy level. The FDA urges patients to continue using the inhaler they have on hand.

What should patients taking an impacted product do?

Patients who currently are using a Perrigo albuterol inhaler should continue to use the inhaler that they have on hand as directed by their doctor. If members are able, they should try to have extra albuterol inhalers on-hand or an alternative treatment available in case of malfunction. They should contact their health care professional or pharmacist with any questions. In the event of an emergency, patients should immediately seek care.

What should prescribers do?

Prescribers can request that their patient be switched to an albuterol inhaler manufacturer that is not Perrigo. UCare covers several other manufacturers of albuterol inhalers that can be dispensed by network pharmacies.

Where can I find additional information?

The FDA has information on their website for health care professionals and patients.

https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-alerts-perrigos-voluntary-albuterol-inhaler-recall

Is UCare contacting impacted members and their providers?

Yes, UCare's pharmacy department will be sending out letters to impacted members. These letters will include information about the recall and direct members to reach out to their prescriber with questions. Letters are expected to mail in early October.

Questions

If you have further questions, please call UCare's Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493 (toll free) or visit ucare.org/providers.