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Inland Empire Health Plan

# PHARMACY TIMES

BY IEHP PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

October 12, 2018

## Reminder: IEHP Medi-Cal Formulary Change for Januvia, Janumet, and Janumet XR

Dear IEHP Provider,

This is a very important notice to remind you of the following Medi-Cal Formulary changes:

- **Effective December 1, 2018, Januvia (sitagliptin), Janumet and Janumet XR will be REMOVED from the Medi-Cal Formulary**

The IEHP Medi-Cal Formulary currently covers all strengths of the **preferred DPP-4 inhibitors: alogliptin, alogliptin-metformin and alogliptin-pioglitazone**, through step therapy with metformin.

To assist your patients with the transition of Januvia, Janumet, and Janumet XR formulary changes, IEHP recommends the following:

- Re-evaluate all patients on sitagliptin (Januvia) therapy. For patients with no risk of heart failure currently on sitagliptin products, we recommend that they be converted to alogliptin according to the following dose conversion.

### **Conversion: Januvia (sitagliptin) to alogliptin**

<b>Sitagliptin Dose</b>	<b>Equivalent alogliptin Dose</b>
25mg once daily	6.25mg once daily
50mg once daily	12.5mg once daily
100mg once daily	25mg once daily

If your patient should remain on a sitagliptin or a sitagliptin product, prescriber must submit a Prescription Drug Prior Authorization (RxPA) with medical justification why other formulary alternatives cannot be used in lieu

- If a RxPA and medication documentation are not submitted for review, starting December 1, 2018, your patient will not be able to pick up Januvia, Janumet, or Janumet XR at their pharmacy.

If your patient is starting on a DPP-4 inhibitor therapy

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- Prescribe IEHP preferred DPP-4 inhibitor

IEHP understands that this transition can be difficult for you and our Members. We urge you to act and discuss appropriate treatment options as soon as possible.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us at (909) 890-2049 between 8:00 AM -5:00 PM Monday through Friday. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
IEHP Pharmaceutical Services