



PROVIDER *bulletin*

February 22, 2019

Dear Provider:

*****Fluticasone/salmeterol*****

Effective 2/16/2019, a true generic of Advair Diskus is now available on the market and on the Kern Family Health Care formulary, allowed in accordance to current professional practice guidelines. Currently there are two manufacturers making the generic Advair Diskus. Although both manufacturers are priced less than the branded product, one manufacturer has a significantly lower WAC than the other. Therefore, when selecting the generic Advair Diskus for KFHC members, please use the Mylan version, called Wixela Inhub. It has the same FDA indications as the brand Advair.

AirDuo, another fluticasone/salmeterol inhaler is also available, though in similar, but different strengths than the Advair. Both the generic AirDuo and Wixela are formulary preferred products. These would be asked to be considered before prescribing the branded formulary products, Breo Ellipta and Dulera.

The **Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA)** guidelines still place the ICS/LABA combination medications in a latter tier following inadequate response to an ICS. The ICS/LABA is considered a first line agent for COPD based on the current **Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD)** guidelines.

Authorization submission: Please submit TARs via the Provider portal. <https://provider.kernfamilyhealthcare.com> Contact your company's system administrator for user access. If you are unsure who your system administrator is, please contact your Kern Health Systems Provider Relations Representative.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy