



State of Vermont Department of Vermont Health Access NOB 1 South, 280 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671-1010 Agency of Human Services [Phone] 802-879-5900 [Fax] 802-241-0268

January 12, 2023

Update to Coverage of Fluticasone HFA and Asmanex HFA

Dear Medicaid Provider,

The Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) has been monitoring provider and patient impact following the discontinuation of Flovent[®] Diskus (fluticasone propionate powder) and Flovent[®] HFA (fluticasone propionate inhalation aerosol), which occurred December 31,2023.

According to The Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention <u>(GINA) 2023 report</u>, "the choice of inhaler device should be based on the child's age and capability. The preferred device is a pressurized metered dose inhaler and spacer, with face mask for <3 years and mouthpiece for most children aged 3–5 years."

Effective 1/12/2024, the following inhalers will be preferred alternatives without prior authorization for patients **UNDER THE AGE OF 6**:

- FLUTICASONE HFA pressurized metered dose inhaler (pMDI)
- ASMANEX® HFA (mometasone furoate) pressurized metered dose inhaler (pMDI)

The following inhalers are preferred alternatives available without prior authorization for ALL AGES:

- ARNUITYTM ELLIPTA[®] (fluticasone furoate) dry powder for inhalation
- ASMANEX® TWISTHALER (mometasone furoate) dry powder for inhalation
- PULMICORT FLEXHALER® (budesonide) dry powder for inhalation
- QVAR REDIHALER® (beclomethasone dipropionate) breath-actuated inhaler

This category of drugs will be monitored and periodically adjusted if new cost-effective products become available. If you feel it is medically necessary for your patient to use a non-preferred product, prior authorization will be required.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362. Vermont providers can also send inquiries via email to

PBA_VTHelpdesk@changehealthcare.com. Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's clinical pharmacy programs.

1. 2023 GINA report for asthma. Lancet Respir Med. 2023 Jul;11(7):589. doi: 10.1016/S2213-2600(23)00230-8