



April 2006

Provider Services Department

PHARMACY UPDATE

Smoking Cessation

What's Covered When a Member Wants to Quit Smoking?

Did you know the Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority (the Authority) covers the following products for SBHI and PP2 members that can help our members quit smoking?

- Nicotine Patches
- Nicotine Gum or Lozenges
- Zyban

Those members who want to use any of these products must enroll in a smoking cessation program for behavior modification (see programs below). The following are the steps to take to access these benefits and get our member on the road to being smoke-free.

If our member wants to quit smoking:

1. Discuss quitting options with our member. If you recommend a nicotine patch, nicotine gum, lozenge or Zyban, write them a **prescription** for it.
(Note: Use of generics is mandatory.)
2. Let them know that they need to enroll in a "stop smoking" program. The smoking cessation program will give them a **Certificate of Enrollment**. This certificate is good for a six (6) month period. If the members' needs are not met in the six (6) month time frame, the member must re-enroll in a program.
3. Tell the member to take both the prescription and Certificate of Enrollment to their **pharmacy** to get the prescription filled for the smoking aid covered by the Authority.
4. The Pharmacy bills MedImpact with a Code 1 override once the member provides these two documents (the prescription and the Certificate).
Note: For SBHI members with Medicare, SBHI should be billed for the OTC nicotine replacement products rather than the Part D plan.

If you have questions about what is covered, call MedImpact at 1-800-788-2949 or Dawn Seward, SBRHA Pharmacy Technician, at 1-800-421-2560, extension 213.

Covered products are also listed on our formulary at www.sbrha.org.

STOP SMOKING PROGRAMS

There are two ways our members can obtain a **Certificate of Enrollment**:

(1) Take a community class sponsored by the Tobacco Prevention Settlement Program. For dates and locations, call Santa Barbara at 681-5407 or Santa Maria at 346-7275. Any SBRHA member can attend the class for free by requesting a scholarship at the time of class enrollment.

(2) Call the California Smokers Helpline at 1-800-NO-BUTTS.

Specially trained counselors are available to provide free information and support over the phone. This is a good option for those who cannot attend a class or who live in an area where a class is not offered.

For other educational resources on smoking cessation, call our Health Educator at 1-800-421-2560, extension 259.