



PROVIDER *bulletin*

February 27, 2018

Re: Sample Medication Distribution

Dear Provider:

KHS actively discourages Providers from providing sample medication to members. However, if given, the samples must cover the entire course of therapy. Also, please note non-formulary medication provided as samples **do not**: establish a continuity precedent, satisfy step therapy criteria (when a formulary alternative is used first), and do not obligate coverage by KHS.

The Provider is also required to document the following information in a Sample Medication Log as well as in the patient medical record:

- A. Patient name
- B. Drug
- C. Dose
- D. Route
- E. Number distributed
- F. Manufacturer
- G. Lot number
- H. Expiration date

For reference, please see KHS Policies 2.24-P Pharmaceutical Guidelines and 13.01-P Drug Utilization and Non-Formulary Treatment Request, located on KHS' website, www.kernfamilyhealthcare.com under the "Providers" tab.

REMINDER: Patient safety and liability risks of drug samples include: improper labeling, incomplete patient monitoring, and inattention to expiration dates, overlooked drug recalls, and theft. For more information regarding safe practices with drug samples visit, [National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention](#) and [Institute for Safe Medication Practices](#).

