



# PROVIDER *bulletin*

April 2, 2020

Dear Provider:

DHCS wishes the managed care plans to share the following with the network providers. Below are the links to the articles. To view previous Educational Articles please go to the DHCS website at <http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/edarticles.asp>.

Montelukast is a leukotriene receptor antagonist approved for asthma and allergies. On March 4, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it is strengthening existing warnings about serious behavior and mood-related changes with montelukast. While the prescribing information for montelukast already includes warnings about mental health side effects, including suicidal thoughts or actions, many health care professionals are not aware of the risks or alternatives to this medicine.

The following has information concerning the safe use of montelukast.  
[http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/Articles/dured\\_30362.pdf](http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/Articles/dured_30362.pdf)

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.  
Director of Pharmacy