



PROVIDER *bulletin*

June 18, 2021

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.aspx>.

The FDA has recently identified abnormal electrocardiographic (ECG) findings and other serious problems in patients with heart disease who are taking lamotrigine. Due to these findings the FDA is now requiring additional studies to evaluate the heart risk across the entire class of sodium channel blockers. At this time, other sodium channel blockers approved for epilepsy, bipolar disorder, and other indications should not be considered safer alternatives to lamotrigine in the absence of additional information.

Follow the link below to access the complete DHCS FFS Education Article concerning Potential Increased Arrhythmia Risk from Lamotrigine.

https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/Articles/dured_31063.pdf

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy