



PROVIDER *bulletin*

September, 2021

Dear Provider:

Kern Family Health Care (KFHC) appreciates the care you provide to our members. Providing efficient and appropriate care is the goal of KHFC and our plan partners as yourselves.

Medicaid Law requires Medicaid Managed Care Plans to only cover FDA approved drugs and their respective indications. Recently there has been a growing use of ivermectin in the hopes to manage COVID-19. Evidence based medicine does not support this use. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and American Medical Association (AMA), American Pharmacist Association (APhA), American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) have come out with statements against the use of ivermectin in treating COVID-19. The following agencies as well have issued advisories, National Institutes of Health (NIH), World Health Organization (WHO), Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and Merck.

Statements the FDA has posted to consumers are below. The notice can be found here.

<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/why-you-should-not-use-ivermectin-treat-or-prevent-covid-19>

- The FDA has not authorized or approved ivermectin for use in preventing or treating COVID-19 in humans or animals. Ivermectin is approved for human use to treat infections caused by some parasitic worms and head lice and skin conditions like rosacea.
- Currently available data do not show ivermectin is effective against COVID-19. [Clinical trials](#) assessing ivermectin tablets for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 in people are ongoing.
- Taking large doses of ivermectin is dangerous.
- If your health care provider writes you an ivermectin prescription, fill it through a legitimate source such as a pharmacy, and take it *exactly* as prescribed.
- Never use medications intended for animals on yourself or other people. Animal ivermectin products are very different from those approved for humans. Use of animal ivermectin for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 in humans is dangerous.

Recommendations from the FDA to tell patients may be found here.

<https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/public-health/what-fda-wants-doctors-tell-patients-asking-ivermectin>

Thank you for helping to take care of our members and performing the important and appreciated services you provide day in and day out.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy