



PROVIDER *bulletin*

October 5, 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>.

A nitrosamine impurity, called N-nitroso-varenicline, is being found above the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s acceptable intake level. All lots are being recalled.

The FDA recommends that patients taking recalled varenicline should continue with their current medication regimen as prescribed, until either their pharmacist provides a replacement, or their doctor prescribes a different medication. The health benefits of stopping smoking outweigh the cancer risk from the nitrosamine impurity in varenicline.

Follow the link below to access the complete DHCS FFS Education Article concerning the Voluntary Recall of Varenicline (Chantix) due to Nitrosamine.
https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/Articles/dured_31302_02.pdf

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy