

## INHALED STEROIDS PA SUMMARY

<b>PREFERRED</b>	Advair Diskus, Advair HFA, Asmanex, Flovent HFA, Pulmicort Respules, QVAR, Symbicort, All Generic Products (except budesonide)
<b>NON-PREFERRED</b>	Alvesco, Budesonide suspension for inhalation, Pulmicort Flexhaler, All Branded versions of generic equivalents (except budesonide).

**LENGTH OF AUTHORIZATION:** 1 Year

### PA CRITERIA:

- ❖ *Alvesco or Pulmicort Flexhaler* Use of 2 different preferred agents in claims history in the past 180 days

OR:

- ❖ Submit documentation of ineffectiveness, allergies, contraindications, drug-drug interactions, or show a history of intolerable side effects to at least two preferred products.
- ❖ Also, pregnancy and currently not controlled on other asthma medications will be considered an approvable indication for Pulmicort Flexhaler.

#### *Budesonide Suspension for Inhalation*

- ❖ Member must require the use of a nebulizer to administer an inhaled corticosteroid

AND:

- ❖ Submit a written letter of medical necessity stating the reason(s) the preferred product, brand name Pulmicort Respules, is not appropriate for the member.

### EXCEPTIONS:

- ❖ Pulmicort Flexhaler approval is available for pregnant women not currently controlled on other asthma medications.
- ❖ Exceptions to these conditions of coverage are considered through the prior authorization process.
- ❖ The Prior Authorization process may be initiated by calling **SXC Health Solutions at 1-866-525-5827**.

### PA and APPEAL PROCESS:

- ❖ For online access to the PA process please go to [www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal](http://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal), highlight the pharmacy link on the top right side of the page, and click on “prior approval process”.

### QUANTITY LEVEL LIMITATIONS:

- ❖ For online access to the current Quantity Level Limit please go to [www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal](http://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal), highlight Provider Information and click on Provider Manuals. Scroll to the page with Pharmacy Services Part II and select that manual.