



INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN

# PHARMACY TIMES

BY IEHP PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

September 23, 2008

*Attention: Mental Health Providers*

## IEHP Pharmacy & Therapeutic Subcommittee Changes Summary

FORMULARY AT A GLANCE		
Non-Formulary Drug	Formulary Alternative	Comments
Lexapro (escitalopram) Effexor XR (venlafaxine) Cymbalta (duloxetine)	Celexa (citalopram) Prozac (fluoxetine) Paxil (paroxetine)	Clinical studies supported the trial of at least 2 SSRIs before trying SNRIs. 33% of the patients responded to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> SSRI regimen upon failure of the 1 <sup>st</sup> SSRI. The remission rate is similar in both the 2 <sup>nd</sup> SSRI group, and the SNRI group.
Topamax (topiramate)	For Migraine Prophylaxis (Adult only): 1. Beta-blockers- propranolol, timolol 2. TCAs-amitriptyline, nortriptyline	Clinical studies suggested that beta-blockers and TCAs provide the same prophylactic benefit compared to topiramate. It should be used as the first line agent.
Lyrica (pregabalin)	For neuropathic pain and fibromyalgia:  Ultram (tramadol)-1 <sup>st</sup> line Neurontin (gabapentin) Elavil (amitriptyline) Norpramin (desipramine) Tofranil (imipramine)	Although Lyrica and Cymbalta obtained the FDA-approved indication for fibromyalgia, it is noted that gabapentin, tramadol, amitriptyline, desipramine, and imipramine have been shown to provide the same efficacy/benefit for patients who experience neuropathic pain.

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<p>Vyvanse (dextroamphetamine)</p>	<p>Adderall/ Adderall XR (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine) Concerta, Metadate CD, Ritalin LA (methylphenidate)</p>	<p>Vyvanse is a prodrug (converted to dextroamphetamine and absorbed from the GI tract). Based on the pharmacokinetic trials, Vyvanse has a similar time-concentration profile to Adderall XR. Vyvanse is reserved for patients who have may have drug abuse potential.</p>
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