



INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN

# PHARMACY TIMES

BY IEHP PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

April 28, 2010

## IEHP Formulary and Pharmacy Data will be available through your E-prescribing Software on 5/1/2010

Effective May 1, 2010, IEHP's Medi-Cal / Healthy Families/ Healthy Kids Members' eligibility, drug history, and IEHP Formulary status will appear on your E-prescribing software. If you are currently using one of the E-prescribing software programs on the market, you are able to send new prescriptions and handle all refill requests from the pharmacies. Starting May 1, 2010, make sure you input IEHP Member ID and select IEHP as Members' designated Health Plan, your software will check eligibility, show all drug history and advise you whether the drug is on the IEHP Formulary. These features will help you in deciding the right regimen (avoid duplicate therapies and early refills), decrease the number of phone calls related to formulary status, and decrease the wait time for your patients at the pharmacy. Your E-prescribing software will display the formulary status of the drug you selected. If a non-formulary drug is selected, your E-prescribing software will allow you to select formulary alternatives instead. IEHP is currently working on customized messaging to alert physicians of alternative therapies if non-formulary drug is selected, the goal is to help physicians to find the right drug as quick as possible. Please note that this feature is already available for our IEHP Medicare DualChoice Members.

Currently, the E-prescribing system can be used for non-scheduled drugs. An interim ruling on "Electronic Prescription for Controlled Substances" was scheduled to go into effect on June 1, 2010. This rule will give prescribing providers the option of issuing electronic prescription for controlled substances, Schedule II through V. Please note that there are additional requirements for physicians to be set up to issue controlled substance prescriptions electronically (i.e. DEA requirement and two-factor authentication). Please consult with your software vendor to see if your system is ready to issue controlled substance prescriptions if the final rule is adopted.

Please note that all systems are designed differently, if you have any questions regarding the functions mentioned above please check with your E-prescribing software vendor.

303 E. Vanderbilt Way, Suite 400, San Bernardino, CA 92408  
Tel (909) 890-2049 Fax (909) 890-2058  
Visit our web site at: [www.iehp.org](http://www.iehp.org)

*A Public Entity*