



NALC Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccine Administration Network

Flu season is just around the corner. Getting a flu shot is the best way to keep you and your family healthy. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that every person age 6 months or older receive a flu shot every year.

The NALC Health Benefit Plan (HBP) offers vaccines to HBP members and their eligible dependents at *no cost* when the plan is the primary payer for medical expenses. When administered at a participating pharmacy, the following vaccines are available free of charge:

- Injectable seasonal flu vaccine (H1N1 strain is incorporated)
- Intranasal seasonal flu vaccine (FluMist®) & intradermal flu vaccine (Fluzone® intradermal [new])
- Injectable seasonal flu high dose (Fluzone®) Vaccine
- Adult Pneumococcal Vaccine
- Pediatric (13-Valent) Pneumococcal Vaccine

The 2011-2012 NALC Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccine Administration Network is comprised of more than 49,000 local NALC Preferred and NALC CareSelect pharmacies (including more than 7,000 CVS pharmacies and Longs Drugs stores pharmacies).

Mini clinics do not participate in the Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccine Administration Network. Mini clinics are walk-in clinics that offer an alternative to emergency rooms for common sicknesses like strep throat, bronchitis and cold/flu, and they are popping up all over the country. You'll find them in supermarkets, chain stores and drug stores. Mini clinics, regardless of where they are located, are not pharmacies.

Benefits payable for covered flu vaccines administered at a mini clinic location are determined based on their participation in the CIGNA OAP network. If they do not participate, members will receive the non-PPO benefit where charges will be subject to the calendar-year deductible and 30 percent coinsurance.

To find a pharmacy near you that participates in the NALC Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccine Administration Network, visit http://pharmacyshots.com/vaccine_network_01.pdf, or you can call CVS Caremark Customer Care at 800-933-NALC (6252).

To get your flu shot, simply visit a participating pharmacy and present your NALC ID card and a photo ID.

- It's fast and easy—no appointment necessary.
- A certified pharmacist will give the shot and answer any questions you may have.

We hope you'll take advantage of this great benefit and take the first step in winning the fight against the flu.

Lipitor information/updates

Some 8.7 million Americans take Lipitor for high cholesterol. On Nov. 30, 2011, the U.S. patent for Lipitor—the biggest-selling prescription drug of all time—expired, allowing generic versions of the statin medication to go on sale. What everyone knows as Lipitor has always had a chemical name: atorvastatin. And it's atorvastatin that the generic version is called.

Will there be a clinical difference between Lipitor and atorvastatin? The color, shape and some inactive ingredients in the pills might be different, but generics must contain the same key ingredient and prove to be equivalent in order to receive approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Although the cost difference can be dramatic, generic drugs are pharmacologically identical to their brand-name versions.

The HBP and CVS Caremark encourage the use of generic medications as first-line therapy whenever appropriate. As an added incentive to try atorvastatin, this generic drug, in all available strengths (10 mg, 20 mg, 40 mg, and 80 mg), will temporarily be added to the 2012 NALC Preferred Drug List on Jan. 1. Through June 30, members will pay just \$7.99 for a 90-day supply purchased through our Caremark mail order program, or through our Maintenance Choice Program available at CVS pharmacies and Longs Drugs. If Medicare Part B is the primary payer, you will pay just \$4 for a 90-day supply.

Effective July 1, regular generic mail order copayments will apply for 90-day fills of atorvastatin. When the HBP is the primary carrier, you will pay just \$12 and only \$10 when Medicare Part B is primary. Buying 90-day fills of the generic atorvastatin results in a substantial savings to you.

We anticipate programming to be complete by Jan. 9 to allow the reduced copayment to be charged for each 90-day script filled. If you fill/refill a script for atorvastatin in early January before programming is complete, please call the plan at 888-636-NALC (6252) to make arrangements to receive the appropriate credit. ☒