

## NOTICE FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

May 6, 2009

### Expanded Limited Use Criteria for Clopidogrel (Plavix)

Effective May 20, 2009, clopidogrel will be listed on the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary according to the following expanded Limited Use (LU) criteria:

Limited Use Code 375:

For patients immediately post-hospitalization for Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS), in combination with ASA. ACS is defined as any myocardial infarction (MI) or unstable angina (UA).

LU Authorization Period: Indefinite

Limited Use Code 376:

For patients immediately pre- or post-percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)\*.

\*Therapy may be initiated up to 10 days prior to PCI.

LU Authorization Period: Indefinite

Limited Use Code 411:

For patients who experience a stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA) while taking Aggrenox (dipyridamole and ASA) or ASA alone; or

For patients experiencing ongoing severe symptomatic peripheral vascular disease (PVD) (i.e. with Ankle Brachial Index < 0.5) after a vascular event while on ASA. ASA should not be used concomitantly; or

For patients requiring ASA with documented severe allergy to ASA, such as anaphylactic reaction or bronchospasm. Gastrointestinal events (GI), including GI bleeds, are excluded.

LU Authorization Period: Indefinite

If a patient new to clopidogrel therapy meets one of the LU criteria, the prescription for clopidogrel should include the corresponding LU code. Indications for use in patients who do not meet the above LU criteria require a patient-specific funding request and these should continue to be submitted through the Exceptional Access Program (EAP) by fax at 416-327-7526 or 1-866-811-9908. Patients who have received approval for clopidogrel through EAP will maintain this approval indefinitely and will not require provision of a LU code on future prescriptions.

More information regarding the expanded Limited Use criteria for clopidogrel may be found in the "Questions and Answers" document on the Ministry website at:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/drugs/opdp\\_eo/notices/notices\\_docs/plavix\\_faq.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/drugs/opdp_eo/notices/notices_docs/plavix_faq.pdf)

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