Keystone First

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PHARMACY FAST FACTS

Important Formulary Update for our Providers

Valsartan and Valsartan HCTZ Recall

Summary: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a voluntary recall of several medicines containing valsartan following detection of an impurity.

The FDA is alerting health care professionals and patients of a voluntary recall of several drug products containing the active ingredient valsartan, used to treat high blood pressure and heart failure. This recall is due to an impurity, N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), which was found in the recalled products. NDMA is classified as a probable human carcinogen as per International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classification.

For more information, including the specific products that are subject to the recall, please visit www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm613729.htm or www.fda.gov → **Safety** (bottom of page) → **Recalls, Market Withdrawals, & Safety Alerts → 7/13/2018 Major Pharmaceuticals Valsartan tablets**.

Requested actions

- Please work with your patients to find a replacement for their prescription if their pharmacy does not have another manufacturer's valsartan product.
- To access to our searchable formulary for alternatives if needed, please go to www.keystonefirstpa.com → **Providers → Pharmacy Services→ Searchable formulary**.

If you have any questions about this communication, please call Pharmacy Services at 1-800-588-6767.