

United HealthCare PDL Changes – October 2007

On September 5, the Food and Drug Administration granted approval for generic Coreg (carvedilol), now available at pharmacies. Coreg is a beta blocker that is used to treat heart failure, hypertension and to treat or prevent heart attacks.

United HealthCare has made the following tier changes, effective immediately:

Advantage PDL

- Coreg moved from Tier 2 to Tier 3
- Generic carvedilol placed in Tier 2

Traditional PDL

- Coreg moved from Tier 2 to Tier 3
- Generic carvedilol placed in Tier 1

According to United HealthCare, their Advantage PDL provides the opportunity to place any medication in any tier on the PDL (prescription drug list), regardless of whether the drug is a brand or a generic. They state that this approach allows them to make tier placement decisions based on a drug's total health care value (clinical, pharmacoeconomic and economic evidence), not its classification as brand or generic. They further state that they continually monitor the costs of generic medications and move them to lower tiers when their overall value is equal to that of lower cost alternatives.

If you have any questions, please contact your McGohan Brabender Account Representative at (800) 293-2347.