

Home Infusion Update

Published By HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc • 541.382.0287 • solutions@homecareiv.com

Quarter - 4th - 2006 • Volume 5 • Number 2

Specialized Compounding of Sterile AND Non-Sterile Products

Beginning in November, 2006, HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc will begin taking prescriptions for both sterile and non-sterile compounded products. A compound is a prescription written by a physician, veterinarian, dentist, or other authorized medical agent for a product that is not commercially available.

Compounding is the art and science of customizing medications to fit individual needs. Standard methods of delivery, dosage strength or taste can be altered to avoid gastric distress, increase blood levels, improve compliance, simplify administration or to make a more palatable product. A patient may need a strength of medication that is not commercially available or may benefit from topical administration of a traditionally oral product.

Our pharmacy has access to over 8000 formulas in association with PCCA (Professional Compounding Centers of America) and our pharmacist has received training in specialized compounding.

Traditionally, HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc. has compounded only sterile products, such as antibiotic infusions, injections and chemotherapy. We can also compound sterile ophthalmics, inhalations and injectables that are not commercially available. Adding non-sterile compounding of topical and oral medications to our current services will provide a valuable benefit to the community of Central Oregon.

Initially prescriptions taken for non-sterile compounds will be limited to veterinary and dental formulations. However, beginning 2007, services should expand to include all compounded prescriptions, including BHRT (biological hormone replacement therapy) and topical pain management.

24 Hours Notice For Coverage

Due to changes in health plan funding for OMAP, COIHS, Clear Choice and other insurance plans, approvals for injectable antibiotic therapies are often taking 24 hours or longer. Some injectables are not on health plan formularies and are not covered under the patient's insurance plan for outpatient therapy. Others may require prior authorization, or mandate an alternate therapy to be covered. Due to these constraints, it is imperative that as much notice as possible be given for a hospital discharge or outpatient admission to home IV therapy.

Coverage must be verified and authorization received before therapy can be initiated unless the patient is able to pay up front for at least one day of therapy. If the antibiotic ends up not being on the insurance company's formulary, the daily cost can be determined by calling our office at 382-0287.



Mr. Ed Returns to Washington D.C.

HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc. Vice President and CFO Ed Neumann joined 100 other members of the

National Home Infusion Association (NHIA) at the second Annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. The conference, held July 18 and 19, coincided with the introduction in the US Congress of the Medicare Home Infusion Therapy Consolidated Coverage Act (HR-5791). The act will provide comprehensive coverage of all aspects of home infusion therapy, including infusion drugs, under Medicare Part B.

Consolidated, comprehensive coverage of home infusion therapy under Medicare Part B will provide seniors with a safe, clinically effective alternative to receiving care in skilled nursing facilities and hospitals and has the potential to save the Medicare program millions of dollars.

Following the conference, Ed met with Oregon 2nd District Congressman Greg Walden and his staff to seek his support as a co-sponsor of HR-5791. For more information on how you can support HR-5791, contact Ed at 541.382.0287.

Open House Date Set For November 29th

HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc. is hosting their annual open house Wednesday, November 29th from 4-8 p.m. in honor of National Home Health and Hospice Month. Wonderful food, live jazz music and beverages will be served at our office

to thank our patients and the medical community for their support of HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc. Come and see what's happening with Sterile Compounding and our new Non-Sterile Compounding pharmacy. Get to know our staff face to face and enjoy a wonderful evening with us. Mark your calendar for this fun filled annual event!



***** **Drugs In The News** *****

TYSABRI® On June 5, 2006 the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the reintroduction of Tysabri for relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis. It is to be used as single drug therapy, and it is recommended that it not be given concurrently with antineoplastics, immunosuppressants or immunomodulating agents.

Because of the risk of PML (Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy), Tysabri is available only through a special restricted distribution program called the TOUCH Prescribing Program. In order for a physician to prescribe, pharmacy to dispense or infusion center to administer Tysabri, the organization must be registered with the TOUCH program.

We are pleased to announce that Home Care I.V. of Bend has been enrolled in the TOUCH program and is ready to begin infusions of Tysabri for patients who are enrolled in and meet the conditions of the TOUCH Prescribing Program. For a list of physicians registered in the TOUCH Prescribing Program in our area, please contact us at the above phone number and we can provide the information.

Quote for the Quarter: "A mind, once expanded by a new idea never returns to its original dimension." Oliver Wendell Holmes

If you would like more information about Tysabri, you can log on to their website at www.tysabri.com or call 1-800-456-2255 Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Or feel free to contact a clinician at HomeCare I.V. of Bend, Inc. for further information about Tysabri therapy.

CUBICIN® (daptomycin) is a cyclic lipopeptide antibiotic administered via IV infusion. It has received FDA approval for complicated skin and skin structure infections caused by gram positive microorganism, including MRSA and also MRSA bloodstream infections (bacteremia), including those with right-sided infective endocarditis. Bacteremia due to *S. aureus* has been associated with mortality rates of 15-60%. This is the first approval for *S. aureus* bacteremia, including right-sided endocarditis in over 20 years.

Cubicin is dosed as once daily, 30 minute IV infusion of 4-6mg/kg with an excellent safety profile.

*Visit Our Website at
www.homecareiv.com*

Inside This Issue

- Specialized Compounding of Sterile and Non-Sterile Products**
- 24 Hours Notice for Coverage**
- Mr. Ed returns to Washington D.C.**
- OPEN HOUSE November 29th 4-8 p.m.**
- Drugs in the News**
- Our Staff**

Our Staff.....

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| NURSES | Betsy N., Betsy Z., Mary, Brad |
| PHARMACISTS | Annette, Barb, Kerri |
| BILLING | Christine, Dee |
| RECEPTION | Anita |
| DELIVERY | Larry |
| WAREHOUSE | Shelly |
| CFO | Ed |
| MEDICAL ASSISTANT | Janet, Shelly |
| TECHNICIANS | April, Melisa, Shelly |
| PATIENT CARE | |
| COORDINATOR | Janet |
| OFFICE TECH | Patrick, Naomi |



2065 NE Williamson Ct., Suite B, Bend, Oregon 97701

place stamp here

