



Preferred Drug List

NEW DRUG REVIEW

Proprietary Name: Janumet™

Common Name: Sitagliptin/Metformin

PDL Category: Diabetic - Other

<u>Comparable Products</u>	<u>Preferred Drug List/ Recommended Drug List Status</u>
Januvia™	Non-Preferred
Metformin	Preferred

Summary

Indications and Usage: Type 2 Diabetes

Mechanism of Action: Sitagliptin: Inhibits dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) thus slowing the inactivation of incretin hormones and improving blood sugar control. Metformin: Decreases hepatic glucose production and glucose absorption from the GI tract as well as increases insulin sensitivity

Dosage Forms: Tablets; 500mg/500mg, 50mg/1000mg

Recommended Dosage: Taken twice daily with meals

Common Adverse Drug Reactions: Runny nose, sore throat, upper respiratory infection, headache, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, flatulence, abdominal pain

Contraindications: Previous hypersensitivity to any component of the product, Type 1 diabetes, diabetic ketoacidosis, renal dysfunction, acute or chronic metabolic acidosis

Manufacturer: Merck & Co., Inc.

Analysis: Janumet™ combines the recently approved Januvia™ with metformin for those patients who do not achieve goal A1C levels with Januvia™ as monotherapy. Clinical studies report patients receiving sitagliptin and metformin in combination experience a 0.7% adjusted mean decrease in A1C from baseline. By comparison, in patients inadequately controlled with metformin, the addition of (up to) 20mg/day of glipizide also resulted in a mean decrease in A1C of 0.7%. Combining Byetta® and at least 1500mg of metformin has shown to have an adjusted mean decrease in A1C of 0.4% – 0.8%. The combination of Exubera® and metformin has shown to have an adjusted mean decrease in A1C of 1.8%. (*The Medical Letter*, Volume 49, Issue 1251, January 1, 2007, pg. 1). Despite the unique mechanism of action of sitagliptin, there are other preferred drugs on the Iowa Medicaid Preferred Drug List that offer an alternative to injectable insulin and/or the addition of a second or third oral anti-diabetic medication to a patient's regimen, that are more cost effective than Janumet™.

IME Recommendation:

- Preferred Drug
 Non-Preferred Drug
 Preferred Drug with Conditions

- Recommended Drug
 Non-Recommended Drug