



# MedStar Family Choice

## UPDATE to the MEDSTAR FAMILY CHOICE FORMULARY Maryland Health Choice

**March 23, 2020**

### **CHANGES BELOW WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

#### **Prior Authorization (PA) added:**

- Chloroquine (brand: Aralen)
- Hydroxychloroquine (brand: Plaquenil).

In the last month, MedStar Family Choice (MFC) saw a sharp increase in the prescribing of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine, likely for COVID-19 treatment. We strongly believe that these medications must be reserved for hospitalized COVID-19 patients and members with rheumatological disorders (when alternate therapies are not available or are not medically prudent). For members using chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine for rheumatological disorders, MFC will make every attempt to grandfather their prescriptions such that there will be no PA requirement and no interruption in therapy. However, in order to prevent outpatient/inappropriate use of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19, MFC now requires PA for all new prescriptions.

**PLEASE NOTE: MFC will not approve chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 treatment in the outpatient setting.**

Please see the PA Table on the MFC website for details of the requirements for approval and guidance on submission of clinical information.