DUKE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM

Department of Pharmacy

Best Practice Advisory Memo

Date: 9/18/2017

Subject: Best Practice Advisory: Levothyroxine Injection

To: DUHS Physicians and Pharmacists **From:** The Center for Medication Policy

Levothyroxine Injection Cost Update:

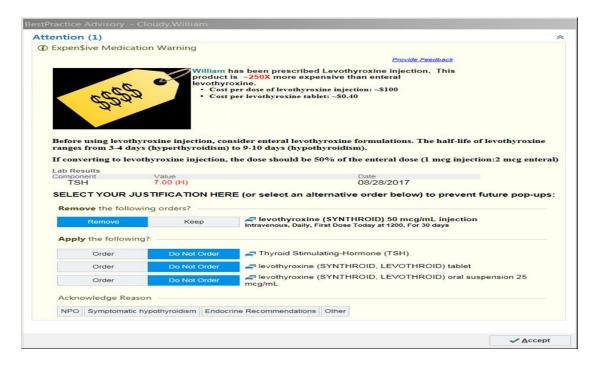
• The cost of levothyroxine injection is now approximately \$100 per dose.

The injection is about 250 times more expensive than the oral tablet or liquid (\$0.40/dose).

DUHS Actions:

- Beginning the evening of Thursday, September 21st, a best practice advisory (BPA) will display to prescribers ordering levothyroxine injection.
 - o The BPA will show the cost difference between the injectable and oral dosage forms
 - Prescribers will have the option to order the tablet or liquid within the BPA
 - o Prescribers will be prompted within the BPA to select a reason for injection use
- The formulary status of levothyroxine injection has not changed.
- If using the injection, the conversion should be approximately 1 mcg IV: 2 mcg PO.
- Prescribers ordering the 200 mcg/500 mL infusion will not receive the BPA.

Levothyroxine Injection BPA:



Questions / Concerns:

Center for Medication Policy - (919) 684-5125