



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 15, 2016
TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Providers
FROM: Jen Steele, Medicaid Director
SUBJECT: Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Emergency Provisions for Pharmacy Overrides

Due to the recent historical flooding, many Louisiana Medicaid recipients are evacuating and are in need of essential medications.

State of Emergency Declared by Governor Edwards

Governor Edwards declared a State of Emergency for the entire state of Louisiana on Friday, August 12, 2016.

The Louisiana Board of Pharmacy reminded pharmacists about Section 519 of the Board's rules, titled *State of Emergency* that has been activated and is now in effect. This rule is automatically activated whenever the Governor of Louisiana declares and/or renews a state of emergency for some or all of the parishes of Louisiana.

The rule states, in part:

"1. A pharmacist may work in the affected parish(es) and may dispense a one-time emergency prescription of up to a thirty day supply of a prescribed medication if: (a) in the pharmacist's professional opinion the medication is essential to the maintenance of life or to the continuation of therapy, and (b) the pharmacist makes a good faith effort to reduce the information to a written prescription marked "Emergency Prescription", then file and maintain the prescription as required by law."

Effective August 13, 2016, certain FFS pharmacy edits will be lifted for recipients residing in the following parishes:

Acadia, Ascension, Assumption, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Livingston, Point Coupee, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana.

Pharmacists may override the early refills of necessary medications when they receive:

**NCPDP reject code 88 (DUR Reject Error) mapped to
EOB code 445 (Duplicate Drug Therapy) or
EOB code 447 (Compliance Monitoring/Early or Late Refill)**

For a prescription override, the pharmacist must supply the codes listed below with the Point of Sale (POS) claim.

NCPDP Field	Name of Field	Value	Definition
NCPDP 439-E4	Reason for Service Code	ID	Ingredient Duplication (for different pharmacy)
		ER	Overuse/Early Refill (for same pharmacy)
NCPDP 440-E5	Professional Service Code	M0	Prescriber Consulted
		P0	Patient Consulted
		R0	Pharmacist Consulted other source
NCPDP 441-E6	Result of Service Code	1A	Filled as is, False positive
		1B	Filled prescription as is
		1C	Filled with different Dose
		1D	Filled with different Directions
		1E	Filled with different Drug
		1F	Filled with different Quantity
		1G	Filled with Prescriber approval

We suggest that pharmacists document the required drug utilization information on the prescription along with the notation of “Flood 2016”. This documentation may be accomplished either by direct notation on the hard copy or electronically through such means as pharmacists notes/comment, etc., depending on the software.

When prescriptions are being filled for recipients due to the emergency flooding situation please enter “RE” (Disaster designation) in NCPDP 439-E4 field (Reason for Service Code) in the second occurrence or loop. We are requesting this for tracking purposes only.

The following edits will be changed from a denial to educational or bypassed:

- EOB 218 – Lock-In recipient, recipient is MD restricted
- EOB 389 – Lock-In recipient, recipient is pharmacy restricted
- EOB 485 – PA required, MD must call ULM-PA operations staff
- EOB 486 – PA expired, MD must call ULM-PA operations staff
- EOB 498 – Number of prescriptions greater than script limit of 4 per month
- EOB 576 – Missing or invalid PA/MC code or diag for script limit override

Prescriptions filled for recipients residing in identified parishes under emergency circumstances will be exempt from copayments.

If override codes are not working or not appropriate, claims should be electronically submitted with a value of “3 = Emergency” in NCPDP field 418-DI (Level of Service). The notation of “Emergency Prescription Flood 2016” should be written on the hard copy prescription.

Eligibility and Drug Utilization Data

Pharmacists may access the Louisiana Medicaid website at www.lamedicaid.com. This website is a useful tool to access information regarding recipients, prescribing provider numbers and clinical data. To gain access to the website, providers should follow directions on the website. Providers should obtain a log-in ID and password.

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- Providers are able to access the Medicaid Eligibility Verification System (MEVS) to verify recipient eligibility. Providers should have the recipient's name and date of birth or social security number.
- Providers may access recipient pharmacy claim history through the electronic Clinical Data Inquiry (e-CDI).

Your continued cooperation and support of the Louisiana Medicaid Program efforts to coordinate care and improve health are greatly appreciated.

If you have questions about the contents of this memo, you may contact the Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Help Desk at (800) 437-9101 or refer to www.lamedicaid.com.

JS/MBW/ESF

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