



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2019

TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Prescribing Providers and Pharmacists

FROM: Jen Steele, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Fee for Service (FFS) Clinical Pre-Authorization for Methadone and FFS and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) Maximum Daily Dose Update for Buprenorphine

Effective May 1, 2019, the Louisiana Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program in collaboration with the Louisiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (LADUR) Board will implement clinical pre-authorization for methadone and maximum daily dose update for buprenorphine.

Clinical Pre-Authorization for Methadone (FFS Only)

Pharmacy claims for methadone will be reimbursed at Point of Sale (POS) when the prescriber has obtained an approved clinical pre-authorization. Prescribers must complete the *Louisiana Uniform Prescription Drug Prior Authorization Form* in full and fax it to 1-866-797-2329.

Pharmacy claims submitted without an approved clinical pre-authorization for methadone will deny at POS with:

NCPDP reject code 88 (DUR Reject Error) mapped to
EOB code 066 (Clinical Pre-Authorization Required).

Refer to <http://ldh.la.gov/assets/HealthyLa/Pharmacy/PDL.pdf> for the PDL, which is inclusive of the *Louisiana Uniform Prescription Drug Prior Authorization Form* and criteria.

Buprenorphine Maximum Daily Dose (FFS and MCOs)

The maximum daily dose for buprenorphine agents will increase from 16 to 24mg/day of buprenorphine (or buprenorphine equivalent).

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Pharmacy claims for buprenorphine (or buprenorphine equivalent) which exceed the maximum daily dose of 24mg/day will deny with:

MCO and FFS: NCPDP reject error 76 (Quantity and/or days supply exceeds program maximum) mapped to

FFS Only: EOB Code 457 (Quantity and/or days supply exceeds program maximum).

For **MCO pharmacy claims**, to override a quantity limit denial, contact the plan's pharmacy help desk. See reference chart at the end of this letter.

If you have questions about the content of this memo, you may contact the FFS pharmacy help desk by phone at (800) 437-9101.

If you have questions about pharmacy claims billing, you may contact the appropriate plan at their pharmacy help desk listed in the chart below.

Healthcare Provider	Pharmacy Help Desk	Pharmacy Help Desk Phone Number
Aetna	CVS Health	(855) 364-2977
AmeriHealth Caritas	PerformRx	(800) 684-5502
Fee for Service	DXC Technology	(800) 648-0790
Healthy Blue	CVS	(833) 236-6194
Louisiana Healthcare Connections	CVS Caremark	(800) 311-0543
United Healthcare	Optum Rx	(866) 328-3108

Please forward this notice to other providers to assist with notification. Your continued cooperation and support of the Louisiana Medicaid Program efforts to coordinate care and improve health are greatly appreciated.

JS/MBW/GJS

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans
Melwyn B. Wendt
DXC Technology