



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

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 13, 2018

**TO:** All Louisiana Medicaid Providers

**FROM:** Jen Steele, Medicaid Director

**SUBJECT:** Louisiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (LADUR) Program for Fee-for Service Medicaid and Managed Care Organizations (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and United Healthcare)

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Pharmacy Program is restructuring the Louisiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (LADUR) Program to collaborate with managed care organizations (MCOs) on drug utilization initiatives. This project is in response to a rule issued by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requiring managed care organizations to create a program to monitor drug utilization.

**DUR Program**

The LDH pharmacy program in collaboration with the MCOs will have a unified DUR program. The MCOs shall maintain a DUR program in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Managed Care Final Rule (CMS-2390-F). The LADUR program contains prospective, retrospective, and educational drug utilization review.

**Prospective Drug Utilization Review**

Prospective DUR screens incoming prescription claims to assure safe and medically necessary drug use at Point of Sale (POS). Prospective DUR messages identify areas of concern such as therapeutic duplications, drug interactions, drug-disease contraindications, inappropriate diagnosis, and overutilization.

**Retrospective Drug Utilization Review**

Retrospective DUR looks for patterns of utilization to determine inappropriate drug fillings. It examines claims data throughout the year to identify possible clinical interventions which can potentially improve the recipient's disease management and quality of life. Retrospective DUR allows prescribers to view their patient's compliance or lack thereof. It can also alert prescribers and pharmacists of potential omissions in drug therapy.

**Educational Drug Utilization Review**

Educational DUR provides educational alerts at POS and a series of educational articles to providers. The educational articles appear in the bimonthly *Provider Update* newsletters. Other written and verbal communication may be distributed as well.

**Upcoming DUR Clinical Edits**

Effective April 1, 2018, the LADUR program will implement prospective edits for diagnosis code requirements for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) agents, stimulants, and substance use disorder (SUD) medications.

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.

If you have questions about the contents of this memo, you may contact the Molina Point of Sale (POS) Help Desk (800) 648-0790 or Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Help Desk at (800) 437-9101 or refer to [www.lamedicaid.com](http://www.lamedicaid.com).

JS/MBW/GJS

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans  
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