



# State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 28, 2021

**TO:** All Louisiana Medicaid Prescribing Providers and Pharmacists

**FROM:** Tara A. LeBlanc, Interim Medicaid Executive Director *Tara A. LeBlanc*

**SUBJECT:** Louisiana Medicaid Pharmacy Educational Alert for Opioid Prescriptions

Effective July 1, 2021, the Louisiana Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), in consultation with the Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board, will implement an educational alert for opioid pharmacy claims. The educational alert applies to pharmacy claims submitted to FFS and MCOs (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and UnitedHealthcare).

### **Educational Alert for Opioid Prescriptions**

Opioid pharmacy claims with a total daily Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME)  $\geq 50$  MME per day will flag at Point of Sale (POS) as an educational alert for review by the pharmacist.

Pharmacy claims  $\geq 50$  MME per day will post the following educational alert at POS:

**MCO Only:** The pharmacy claim will post an educational alert with a **NCPDP rejection code**.

**FFS Only:** **NCPDP rejection code 88** (DUR reject) mapped to **EOB code 321** (Advise naloxone PRN usage; Daily MME  $>$  or  $= 50$ ).

Override provisions are not necessary for an educational alert.

### **Additional Information:**

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*, medication list, and criteria.

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.

<b>Healthcare Provider</b>	<b>Pharmacy Help Desk</b>	<b>Pharmacy Help Desk Phone Number</b>
Aetna	CVS Health	(855) 364-2977
AmeriHealth Caritas	PerformRx	(800) 684-5502
Fee for Service	Gainwell Technologies	(800) 648-0790
Healthy Blue	CVS	(833) 236-6194
Louisiana Healthcare Connections	CVS Caremark	(800) 311-0543
UnitedHealthcare	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.

TL/MBW/GJS

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans  
Melwyn B. Wendt  
Gainwell Technologies