



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

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 18, 2018

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

**FROM:** Jen Steele, Medicaid Director

**SUBJECT:** Louisiana Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) Diagnosis Code Exemptions for Sickle Cell Crisis

Effective January 1, 2019, the Louisiana Medicaid Pharmacy Program in collaboration with the Louisiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (LADUR) Board will implement diagnosis code exemptions for sickle cell crisis for opioid prescriptions. The LADUR Board impacts Fee for Service and Medicaid MCOs (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and United Healthcare) clinical initiatives.

**Opioid Quantity and Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) Limit Exemption for Sickle Cell Crisis Diagnosis**

Pharmacy claims for recipients with a diagnosis of sickle cell crisis will be exempt from opioid quantity and MME limit(s).

Pharmacy claims for opioids will bypass the edits for quantity and MME limit when the following sickle cell crisis diagnosis codes are submitted at POS in NCPDP field 424-DO:

Medicaid FFS and MCOs Diagnosis Code Exemption for Sickle Cell Crisis

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<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code</b>
Hb-SS disease with crisis	D57.0
Hb-SS disease with crisis, unspecified	D57.00
Hb-SS disease with acute chest syndrome	D57.01
Hb-SS disease with splenic sequestration	D57.02
Sickle-cell/Hb-C disease with crisis	D57.21
Sickle-cell/Hb-C disease with acute chest syndrome	D57.211
Sickle-cell/Hb-C disease with splenic sequestration	D57.212
Sickle-cell/Hb-C disease with crisis, unspecified	D57.219
Sickle-cell thalassemia with crisis	D57.41
Sickle-cell thalassemia with acute chest syndrome	D57.411
Sickle-cell thalassemia with splenic sequestration	D57.412
Sickle-cell thalassemia with crisis, unspecified	D57.419
Other sickle-cell disorders with crisis	D57.81
Other sickle-cell disorders with acute chest syndrome	D57.811
Other sickle-cell disorders with splenic sequestration	D57.812
Other sickle-cell disorders with crisis, unspecified	D57.819

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.

<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	DXC Technology	(800) 648-0790
Healthy Blue	Express Scripts	(844) 367-6111
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