



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 17, 2018

TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Providers

FROM: Jen Steele, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Louisiana Fee for Service (FFS) Medicaid Revised Long-Acting Opioid Quantity Limits and Point of Sale (POS) Edit for the Concurrent Use of Opioids and Benzodiazepines

Effective May 1, 2018, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Pharmacy Program in conjunction with the Louisiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board will implement new opioid policy for long-acting opioid prescription drugs reimbursed by Fee for Service (FFS) Medicaid by changing the current quantity limits to reflect units per 30-day supply within a 30-day period. The Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) policy implemented on September 12, 2017, will still apply and supersede this policy, if applicable. (See <http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/Pharmacy/pharmacyindex.htm>.) Also, there will be an implementation of new POS edits for the concurrent use of opioids and benzodiazepines.

EXEMPTIONS:

Recipients with a diagnosis of cancer or palliative care will be exempt from the long-acting opioid quantity limits and concurrent use of opioids with benzodiazepines edits. Acceptable diagnosis codes that will bypass these edits:

Diagnosis	ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code(s)
Cancer	C00.*-C96.*
Palliative Care	Z51.5

*any number or letter or combination of UP TO FOUR numbers and letters of an assigned ICD-10-CM diagnosis code

Long-Acting Opioid Quantity Limits 30-Day Supply per 30 Rolling Days

Pharmacy claims that exceed the quantity limit should deny with:

NCPDP reject code 76 (Quantity and/or days' supply exceeds program maximum) mapped to

EOB code 600 (Quantity Exceeds Max- MD Fax Opioid Treatment Worksheet to 1-866-797-2329).

Overrides for quantities greater than the limits listed in the table below will be addressed using the *Opioid Analgesic Treatment Worksheet*. The prescriber must fax the completed form and applicable supporting documentation to the Prior Authorization Unit housed at University of Louisiana Monroe (ULM) at 1-866-797-2329).

Revised Long-Acting Opioid Quantity Limits, Units per 30 Days Supply Within a 30-Day Period				
Description	Dosage Form	CURRENT LIMITS Units / 15 Days	NEW LIMITS Units / 30 Days	Representative Brand
Hydromorphone HCl	Tablet ER 24 hr	15 units	30 units	Exalgo®
Morphine Sulfate	CPMP 24 hr	15 units	30 units	Avinza®
Morphine Sulfate	Capsule SR Pellet	30 units	30 units	Kadian®
Morphine Sulfate	Tablet LA	30 units	60 units	MS Contin®
Morphine Sulfate	Tablet ER	N/A	60 Units	Arymo ER®
Morphine Sulfate/Naltrexone	Capsule SR Pellet	30 units	60 units	Embeda®
Oxycodone HCl	Tablet SR 12 hr	30 units	60 units	Oxycontin®
Oxycodone/Acetaminophen	Tablet ER 12 hr	30 units	60 units	Xartemis XR®
Oxymorphone HCl	Tablet SR 12 hr	30 units	60 units	Opana ER®
Tapentadol	Tablet ER 12 hr	30 units	60 units	Nucynta ER®
Hydrocodone Bitartrate	Capsule ER 12hr	30 units	60 units	Zohydro ER®
Hydrocodone Bitartrate	Tablet ER 24 hr	15 units	30 units	Hysingla ER®
Oxycodone Myristate	Capsule ER 12hr	30 units	60 units	Xtampza ER®
Tramadol ER	Tablet ER 24 hr	15 units	30 units	Conzip ®

Concurrent Use of Opioids with Benzodiazepines

Pharmacy claims for an opioid will deny if there is an active claim on the recipient's profile for a benzodiazepine. Pharmacy claims for a benzodiazepine will deny if there is an active claim on the recipient's profile for an opioid. Pharmacy claims for these medications will deny at POS with:

NCPDP reject code 88 (DUR Reject Error) mapped to
EOB code 423 (Additive Toxicity)

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After consultation with the prescriber to verify the necessity of concurrent therapy, the pharmacist may override the denial by submitting the following override at POS:

NCPDP 439-E4 field (Reason for Service Code) **AT** (Additive Toxicity)

NCPDP 440-E5 field (Professional Service Code) **M0** (Prescriber Consulted)

NCPDP 441-E6 field (Result of Service Code) **1G** (Filled with Prescriber Approval)

(See **EXEMPTIONS** to concurrent use of opioids with benzodiazepines edit on page 1 of this memo).

When the pharmacist cannot reach the prescriber **OR** when the RxPA Center is closed (the RxPA Center is open 8am-6pm Monday through Saturday and is closed on Sunday), the pharmacist, using his/her professional judgment, may deem the filling of the prescription for these edits to be an 'emergency.' In these emergency cases, the pharmacist must indicate 'Emergency Prescription' and document the emergency on the hardcopy prescription or in the pharmacy's electronic recordkeeping system. The pharmacist may override the pharmacy claim at POS by:

Placing '03' in NCPDP field 418-DI (Level of Service).

Please forward this notice to other providers to assist with notification. The Department's ultimate goal is to ensure appropriate and medically necessary utilization of opioids while decreasing the risk of overutilization and diversion.

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.

JS/MBW/BMW

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans
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