



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 27, 2023

TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Prescribing Providers and Pharmacists

FROM: Kimberly Sullivan, Interim Medicaid Executive Director *KCS*

SUBJECT: Louisiana Medicaid Pharmacy Point of Sale Clinical Authorization and Updates- October 2023

Effective October 28, 2023, 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 clinical authorization for select medications. The authorization applies to pharmacy claims submitted to FFS and MCOs (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Humana Healthy Horizons, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and UnitedHealthcare). On October 28, 2023, Magellan Medicaid Administration (MMA) will serve as the Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) for MCO pharmacy claims.

Clinical Authorization Requirement

Pharmacy claims for the following select agents require clinical authorization.

- Continuous Glucose Monitors
- Deutetrabenazine (Austedo® XR)
- Fecal microbiota spores, live-brpk (Vowst™)
- Lecanemab-irmb (Leqembi™)
- Somapacitan-beco (Sogroya®)
- Teplizumab-mzwv (Tzield®)

Pharmacy claims submitted without an approved clinical authorization will deny at Point of Sale (POS) with:

MCO Only: The pharmacy claim will deny with a **NCPDP rejection code**.

FFS Only: **NCPDP rejection code 88** (DUR Reject Error) mapped to **EOB code 066** (Clinical Authorization Required).

Override provisions should be addressed through the Clinical Authorization process.

Clinical Criteria and Point of Sale Updates

- Aducanumab-avwa (Aduhelm®) – Revised clinical criteria and accompanying PA request form to reflect updated prescribing information.
- Cystic Fibrosis
 - Elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor (Trikafta®) – Revised clinical criteria to reflect new age limit of 2 years or older.
 - Ivacaftor (Kalydeco®) – Revised clinical criteria to reflect new age limit of 1 month old or older.
- Cytokine and CAM Antagonists
 - Upadacitinib (Rinvoq®) – Revised clinical criteria to include an indication of Crohn’s disease.
- Heart Disease – Hyperlipidemia – Lipotropics (Other)
 - Evinacumab-dgnb (Evkeeza®) – Revised clinical criteria to reflect new age limit of 5 years or older.
- Pain Management – Antimigraine Agents – Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) Antagonists
 - Atogepant (Qulipta®) – Revised clinical criteria to allow for expanded indication.

Additional Information:

FFS Only: Most pharmacy claim denials can be overridden in emergency situations at Point of Sale. If it is necessary to override the claim, “03” can be entered in **NCPDP field 418-DI** (Level of Service). Refer to www.lamedicaid.com for the POS User Guide and override procedures.

MCO Only: If an override is required, or additional assistance is needed, contact Magellan’s pharmacy help desk. (See contact information at the end of this document.)

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.

Healthcare Provider	Pharmacy Help Desk	Pharmacy Help Desk Phone Number
Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Humana Healthy Horizons, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, UnitedHealthcare	Magellan*	(800) 424-1664
Fee for Service	Gainwell Technologies	(800) 648-0790

* On October 23, 2023, the Magellan pharmacy help desk will be the appropriate contact for the MCO plans.

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.

KS/MBW/GJS

c: Healthy Louisiana Plans
 Melwyn B. Wendt
 Gainwell Technologies
 Magellan