



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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 6, 2023

TO: All Louisiana Medicaid Prescribing Providers and Pharmacists

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

SUBJECT: Louisiana Medicaid Pharmacy Maintenance Medications Professional Dispensing Fee for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) – Implementation Postponed to October 28, 2023

The original implementation date of October 1, 2023 was postponed with a new implementation date of October 28, 2023. Effective October 28, 2023, the Louisiana Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will align with Fee for Service and implement a maximum of one professional dispensing fee (DF) per identified maintenance drug and strength per rolling thirty days. This policy is currently active for Fee for Service (FFS) Medicaid and will now apply to the MCOs (Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Healthy Blue, Humana Healthy Horizons, Louisiana Healthcare Connections, and UnitedHealthcare).

Dispensing Fee Edit for Maintenance Medications

When a Generic/Brand product and strength has been dispensed for at least 60 days, and the current pharmacy claim is for the same Generic/Brand product and strength and is **NOT** dispensed for at least a 30 day supply, the claim will pay the ingredient cost, but not a professional dispensing fee. The dispensing fee will not be reimbursed and the following message will be sent at Point of Sale (POS): "One dispensing fee per 30 days for maintenance medications."

Override: Upon consultation with the prescriber to verify the necessity of the short fill (quantity less than 30 days' supply) and receive the professional dispensing fee, the pharmacist may submit *NCPDP field 420-DK: Submission Clarification Code (SCC) value of 47 – Shortened Days' Supply Fill* and be reimbursed the professional dispensing fee.

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