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Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Programs Update

On February 13, 2020, the New York State Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board recommended changes to the Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Programs. **Effective May 14, 2020**, the fee-for-service pharmacy program will implement the following parameters:

Management of Non-Acute Pain
- Prior Authorization (PA): all new requests for an opioid for non-acute pain (pain requiring > 7 days of therapy) exceeding 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs) per day will require a PA. Patients established on > 90 MMEs, or with a cancer or sickle cell diagnosis, or who are in hospice care will not require PA.

Eosinophilic Asthma (EA)
- Prior Authorization will be required for patients with no history of corticosteroid utilization and no concurrent corticosteroid use, who are prescribed medications for the treatment of EA.

Second Generation Oral Antipsychotics (SGA)
- Prior Authorization will be required for patients prescribed a dose above the maximum daily dose (MDD) approved by the FDA in the package labeling. Patients established on higher MDD will not require PA.

For more detailed information on the DUR Board, please refer to:
http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/dur/index.htm

Below is a link to the most up-to-date information on the Medicaid FFS Pharmacy Prior Authorization (PA) Programs. This document contains a full listing of drugs subject to the Medicaid FFS Pharmacy Programs: https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_PDP_PDL.pdf

To obtain a PA, please contact the clinical call center at 1-877-309-9493. The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with pharmacy technicians and pharmacists who will work with you, or your agent, to quickly obtain a PA.

Medicaid enrolled prescribers can also initiate PA requests using a web-based application. PAXpress® is a web based pharmacy PA request/response application accessible through a new button "PAXpress" located on https://emedny.org/ under the MEIPASS button.

Additional information is available at the following websites:
http://www.nyhealth.gov or http://newyork.fhsc.com or http://www.eMedNY.org