



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Programs Update

On November 5, 2020, the New York State Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board recommended changes to the Medicaid pharmacy prior authorization programs. **Effective February 4, 2021**, the fee-for-service prior authorization (PA) requirements will change for the following:

Management of Acute Pain

- Prior Authorization (PA): For opioid-naïve patients, prior authorization is required when initiating therapy with a short-acting opioid (SAO) at equal to or greater than (\geq) 50 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day. Patients with a cancer or sickle cell disease diagnosis, or who are in hospice care 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 eMedNY.org under the MEIPASS button.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

<https://www.health.ny.gov> or <http://newyork.fhsc.com> or <http://www.eMedNY.org>