



Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Programs Update

On September 19, 2019, the New York State Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board recommended changes to the Medicaid pharmacy prior authorization programs. **Effective November 21, 2019**, the fee-for-service pharmacy program will implement the following parameters:

Opioid Utilization as it Relates to the SUPPORT Act

- Prior Authorization (PA): all requests for an opioid exceeding 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs) per day for use in opioid-naïve patients will require a PA.

Antipsychotic Utilization in Children as Related to the SUPPORT Act

- Educational letters will be sent to providers who prescribe antipsychotic medications for patients < 21 years of age to inform of the need for metabolic monitoring when on an antipsychotic.
- Prior Authorization will be required for patients < 21 years of age who are taking ≥ 2 different oral antipsychotics for more than 90 days (letters to be sent to those prescribers who may be impacted by this initiative).

Opioid and Antipsychotic Concurrent Utilization as Related to the SUPPORT Act

- Educational letters will be sent to prescribers highlighting the SUPPORT Act requirements addressing the concurrent use of antipsychotic and opioid medications, and the importance of mental health treatment and coordination of care.

Leukotriene Modifiers used in the Treatment of Asthma

- Educational letters will be sent to prescribers regarding leukotriene modifier use relative to current asthma treatment guidelines.

For more detailed information on the DUR Board and copies of provider communication letters, 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:

<http://www.nyhealth.gov> or <http://newyork.fhsc.com> or <http://www.eMedNY.org>