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# Medicaid Pharmacy Guidance Regarding the End of the Declared Disaster Emergency in the State of New York - COVID-19

As announced in [Executive Order 210](#), the New York State Declared Disaster Emergency has ended, effective June 25, 2021. **Consequently, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program will return to pre-emergency policies effective July 9, 2021, as outlined below.**

Following the [Declared Disaster Emergency](#), the Medicaid Pharmacy Program created allowances and distributed guidance regarding 90-day supplies, medication deliveries, drug supplies and shortages, and early refills. The previously distributed guidance may be found [here](#), last updated April 6, 2020.

### 90 Day Supplies

- Medicaid will continue to cover a 90-day supply for most prescription and over the counter (OTC) maintenance medications, in accordance with State and federal laws.

### Medication Deliveries

- Confirmation of delivery via phone call, text or email, in lieu of signature, has been discontinued. Pharmacies that choose to provide delivery must confirm receipt of medications by obtaining a signature at the time of delivery from the Medicaid member, their caregiver or their designee as required per [Medicaid Policy](#).

### Early Refills

- Previous guidance allowing the use of the early refill override has been discontinued. Pharmacies responding to an early refill request from a member due to quarantine or outbreak should direct their inquiries to the Medicaid Pharmacy Program (518) 486-3209. **Use of the early refill override for a patient's COVID-19 quarantine or outbreak must now be authorized by the Medicaid Pharmacy Program and be documented within the pharmacy's processing system.**
- **Note, pharmacy claims utilizing the early refill override for any reason require NYS Department of Health (DOH) approval.**
- The DOH continues to monitor override utilization. Claims submitted with the override without authorization are subject to audit and recovery by the NYS Office of Medicaid Inspector General.

## Drug Supplies and Shortages

- During the Declared Disaster Emergency, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program monitored prescription drugs supplies and OTC products for back orders and removed certain prior authorization requirements in order to improve access.
- As of June 2021, there are no reported drug shortages. Therefore, on June 17, 2021, prior authorization requirements were reinstated for drugs previously reported in shortage.
- For a complete listing of drugs in the Medicaid Fee-for-Service Preferred Drug Program please visit: [https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx\\_PDP\\_PDL.pdf](https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_PDP_PDL.pdf).

The above updates have been communicated to the Medicaid Managed Care plans.

Medicaid Managed Care plan questions may be directed to the specific plan. A complete list of Medicaid Managed Care plans can be found here: <https://mmcdruginformation.nysdoh.suny.edu/>.

For questions regarding this communication providers may e-mail the pharmacy mailbox at: [ppno@health.ny.gov](mailto:ppno@health.ny.gov) or call (518) 486-3209.