

**NEW YORK STATE
MEDICAID FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM**

PHARMACY MANUAL

POLICY GUIDELINES

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This Policy Manual applies to the Medicaid Fee-for-Service Program. While some provisions apply to Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) plans per statute, specific questions regarding MMC requirements should be directed to the applicable MMC plan.

Section I - General Pharmacy Policy

Required Prescribing Information

In accordance with NY State Education Law, all prescriptions written in New York State by a person authorized by New York State to issue such prescriptions shall be transmitted electronically directly from prescriber to a pharmacy or pharmacist. Official New York State prescription forms or an oral prescription are accepted when exceptions exist as noted in law.

All prescriptions and fiscal orders must bear:

- The name, address, age and client identification number (CIN) of the patient for whom it is intended. If the CIN does not appear on the order, the prescription should only be filled if the CIN is readily available in the pharmacy records;
- The date on which it was written;
- The name, strength, if applicable, and the quantity of the drug prescribed;
- Directions for use, if applicable; and
- The name, address, telephone number, profession, DEA Number (if applicable) and signature of the prescriber who has written or initiated the prescription or fiscal order.

If a pharmacist is certain that the prescription is from a legitimate prescriber and the prescriber's license number or eMedNY provider identification number is readily available in the records of the pharmacy, it is not necessary to record the license number or eMedNY provider identification number on the prescription or fiscal order.

For **non-controlled substance prescriptions**, the pharmacist may record on the prescription:

- The address, age and CIN of the Medicaid beneficiary,

If the address, age or CIN of the Medicaid beneficiary are missing, the pharmacist is not required to enter any of these items on the prescription if the information:

- Is otherwise readily available in the records of the pharmacy and the pharmacist knows the person who is requesting that the prescription be filled, or
- The pharmacist is otherwise satisfied that the prescription is legitimate.

Prescriptions written for **controlled substances** must meet the requirements of Article 33 of the Public Health Law. In accordance with New York State Department of Health Codes, Rules and Regulations Title 10, Part 80, pharmacists are permitted to add or change only certain information on controlled substance prescriptions.

Prescription Drug Orders

Prescription drugs can be obtained by an electronically transmitted prescription, a signed written order, facsimile (on an Official NY State Prescription form) when allowed by law, or oral prescription from a qualified prescriber. Faxbacks are not considered original prescriptions and are not allowed.

Quantities for prescription drugs shall be dispensed in the amount prescribed, taking into consideration those drugs should be ordered in a quantity consistent with the health needs of the Medicaid beneficiary and sound medical practice.

A pharmacist may not fill an original prescription more than sixty (60) days after it has been initiated by the prescriber.

For controlled substances, a pharmacist may not fill an original prescription more than thirty (30) days after it has been initiated by the prescriber.

Non-Prescription Drug Orders

Non-prescription drugs, also known as over-the-counter (OTC) drugs, can be obtained by an electronically transmitted prescription or a signed written order (fiscal order) from a qualified prescriber.

A fiscal order written on an Official NYS Serialized Prescription Form and faxed to the pharmacy provider will be considered an original order. When an order for non-prescription drugs not written on the serialized official prescription form has been telephoned or faxed to the pharmacy provider, it is the pharmacy provider's responsibility to obtain the original signed fiscal order from the prescriber within 30 days.

If the ordering practitioner does not request a quantity that corresponds to the prepackaged unit, the pharmacist may supply the drug in the pre-packaged quantity that most closely approximates the amount ordered.

A pharmacist may not fill an original fiscal order for a non-prescription drug more than sixty (60) days after it has been initiated by the prescriber.

Medical/Surgical Supply Orders

Medical/surgical supplies can be obtained by an electronically transmitted prescription or a signed written order (fiscal order) from a qualified prescriber.

A fiscal order written on an Official NYS Serialized Prescription Form and faxed to the pharmacy provider will be considered an original order. When an order for medical/surgical supplies not written on the serialized official prescription form has been telephoned or faxed to the pharmacy provider, it is the pharmacy provider's responsibility to obtain the original signed fiscal order from the prescriber within 30 days.

If the ordering practitioner does not request a quantity that corresponds to the prepackaged unit, the pharmacist may provide the item in the pre-packaged quantity that most closely approximates the amount ordered.

A pharmacy provider may not fill an original fiscal order for medical/surgical supplies more than sixty (60) days after it has been initiated by the prescriber.

Serial Number and Origin Code Requirement

The serialized number from the Official NY State Prescription (ONYSRx) **must** be used when submitting claims for prescriptions written in New York State on an Official New York State Prescription form. The table below describes other situations in which a prescription would be dispensed by a pharmacy with the Department approved ONYSRx serial number replacement. In addition to the serial number requirement, all claims for prescriptions require an accurate Origin Code. The table below lists the Origin Codes with the appropriate corresponding serial number.

ORIGIN CODE Field 419-DJ	CORRESPONDING SERIAL Field 454-EK	DESCRIPTION
1	Unique ONYSRx #	Written - Prescriptions prescribed in NY will be on Official New York Prescription forms with a designated serial number to use.

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1	ZZZZZZZZ	Written - Prescriptions prescribed from out-of-state practitioners or by practitioners within a federal institution (e.g., US Department of Veterans Affairs) or Indian Reservation.
2	99999999	Telephone - Prescriptions obtained via oral instructions or interactive voice response using a telephone.
2	SSSSSSSS	Telephone – Fiscal orders for supplies obtained via oral instructions using a telephone. *
3	EEEEEEEE	Electronic - Prescriptions obtained via SCRIPT or HL7 standard transactions, or electronically within closed systems. **
4	Unique ONYSRx #	Facsimile – ONYSRx Prescriptions obtained via fax machine transmission.
4	SSSSSSSS	Facsimile – Fiscal orders for supplies not on a ONYSRx obtained via fax machine transmission. *
4	NNNNNNNN	Facsimile - Prescriptions obtained via fax machine transmission for nursing home patients (excluding controlled substances) in accordance with written procedures approved by the medical or other authorized board of the facility.
5	TTTTTTTT	Pharmacy - this value is used to cover any situation where a new Rx number needs to be created from an existing valid prescription such as traditional transfers, intra-chain transfers, file buys, software upgrades/migration, and any reason necessary to give it a new number. ***
5	99999999	Pharmacy - this value is appropriate for "Pharmacy dispensing" when applicable such as non-patient specific orders, BTC (behind the counter), Plan B, established protocols, etc.
5	DDDDDDDD	Pharmacy - this value is used to cover prescriptions dispensed as Medically Necessary during a Declared State of Emergency (excluding controlled substances).

* Dispensing provider is required to obtain the original signed fiscal order from the ordering practitioner within 30 days.

** Fail-over electronically transmitted prescriptions that come to the pharmacy as a facsimile are **invalid**.

Reference: <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pharm/pharmelectrans.htm>

*** Remember to use original date prescribed as “written date” when processing prescription transfers. Transfers are not allowed for controlled substances in New York State. All other laws regarding prescription transfers apply.

Prescription drug orders received by the pharmacy as a facsimile must be an original hard copy on the Official New York State Prescription Form that is manually signed by the prescriber, and that serial number must be used. Prescriptions for controlled substances that are submitted electronically but fail transmission **may not** default to facsimile.

Multiple Drug Orders

For drugs administered in a nursing home, multiple drug orders for **non-controlled** prescription drugs can be ordered on a single prescription document. Pharmacies providing services under contract to nursing homes are not required to obtain separate prescriptions for these drugs. The dispensing pharmacy must be employed by or providing services under contract to the nursing home.

All prescriptions written for controlled substance medications must be electronically transmitted by a qualified prescriber or written on an Official New York State Prescription Form in order to be dispensed by a pharmacy. Multiple drug orders are **not** allowed on prescriptions for controlled substances.

Refills

A prescription or fiscal order may not be refilled unless the prescriber has indicated on the prescription or fiscal order the number of refills. No prescription or fiscal order for a drug or supply may be refilled 180 or more days after it has been initiated by the prescriber. In addition, no more than five (5) refills are permitted for prescriptions or fiscal orders with the exception of oral contraceptives, for which no more than 11 refills are permitted when prescribed for family planning purposes.

All refills of prescription drugs must be in accordance with Federal and State laws and bear the prescription number of the original prescription. Refills of non-prescription drugs and medical/surgical supplies must also be appropriately referenced to the original order by the pharmacy.

Faxed refill authorization requests are not allowed under the Medicaid Program.

Transfers

Transfers are allowed for a refill when all other state laws and Medicaid policies are adhered to. This includes using the original written date of the original order; and only one refill at a time may be transferred. In addition to the serial number and origin code requirements as stated above in section Serial Number and Origin Code Requirement, transferred prescriptions/OTC orders must be filled within 180 days of the original written date. Changing a written date to bypass the edit is considered fraudulent billing and is subject to audit.

Automatic Refill

Automatic refilling is not allowed under the Medicaid program. **Automatic-refill programs** offered by pharmacies are **not** an option for beneficiaries. **Faxbacks** are also **not allowed**.

Requests for a refill: A beneficiary or designated caregiver may contact the pharmacy to request necessary refills.

Provider inquiry: A pharmacy/DME provider may initiate contact with a beneficiary by phone or electronic means (e.g. text message) to determine if a refill is necessary. Documentation of the beneficiary's response on the need for each refill shall be maintained in the patient record and must include the date and time of contact, Medicaid beneficiary or designated caregiver's name and contactor's identification. This documentation must be available for audit purposes. Billing claims before the beneficiary has requested or consented to the filling of the drug/DME item is considered inappropriate billing and not allowed.

Reminder: Compliance with HIPAA privacy guidelines is mandatory.

Lost or Stolen Prescriptions

If a Medicaid beneficiary has experienced a loss or theft of medication, pharmacy providers should instruct beneficiaries to contact their prescriber. The decision to honor a beneficiary's request for authorization of a replacement supply should be based on the professional judgement of the prescriber. **In no event will approval be granted for lost or stolen controlled substances.**

Prescribers may initiate a prior authorization request for a lost or stolen medication by contacting the Bureau of Pharmacy Policy and Operations at 1-518-486-3209. Approvals, if granted, will **ONLY** be for the **balance** of the medication reported lost or stolen.

Vacation Requests

Medicaid ensures an ample medication supply to accommodate for most temporary absences. Beneficiaries that do not have an adequate supply of medication due to a temporary absence should make alternative arrangements, such as relying on a trusted friend or family member.

Pick up / Receipt

Pharmacies/DME providers must obtain a signature from the Medicaid beneficiary, their caregiver or their designee to confirm receipt of the prescription drugs, over-the-counter

products, medical/surgical supplies, and DME items when picked up from the provider. The pharmacy must have documentation confirming the prescription number(s), date of pick-up and signature. One signature is sufficient for multiple prescriptions being picked-up at one time. Claim submission is not proof that the prescription or fiscal order was actually furnished.

Delivery

Delivery of prescription drugs, over-the-counter products, medical/surgical supplies, and durable medical equipment (DME) is an **optional** service that can be provided to Medicaid beneficiary's home or current residence including facilities and shelters. Pharmacies/DME providers **must obtain a signature** from the Medicaid beneficiary, their caregiver or their designee to confirm receipt of the prescription drugs, over-the-counter products, medical/surgical supplies, or DME items. Claim submission is not proof that the prescription or fiscal order was actually furnished.

Providers offering delivery must implement and operate a distribution and delivery system that reflects "best practices".

If a provider chooses to provide this **optional** service to their customers, all the criteria listed below will apply:

For all Deliveries:

1. A signature is required at the time of delivery, including facility/provider deliveries.
2. All shipping and delivery costs are the responsibility of the pharmacy.
3. The pharmacy is liable for the cost of any prescription damaged or lost through distribution and delivery. The Medicaid Program **does not** provide reimbursement for replacement supplies of lost, stolen or misdirected medication, medical/surgical supply or DME deliveries.
4. Medicaid beneficiaries cannot be charged for delivery if Medicaid reimburses for all or any portion of the item being delivered.
5. The pharmacy is accountable for proper delivery of intact, usable product.
6. The signature documentation must also include the list of prescription number(s) and date the medication(s) was/were delivered.
7. A single signature verifying receipt will be sufficient for all of the medications in the delivery.
8. A waiver signature form is not an acceptable practice, and such forms will not serve as confirmation of delivery. Waiver signature forms are defined by delivery industry standards.
9. Delivery industry tracking receipts that contain a signature (e.g., FedEx tracking receipts) qualify as a signature for receipt of delivery.
10. Electronic signatures for receipt or electronic tracking slips for delivery are permitted only if retrievable on audit.
11. Delivery confirmation must be maintained by the pharmacy for six years from the date of payment and must be retrievable upon audit.

For Home Deliveries:

1. The pharmacy should inform the beneficiary or their designee of the pharmacy's delivery schedule, verify the date and location for the delivery, and notify the beneficiary that a signature will be required at the time of delivery.
2. The number of times a pharmacy attempts to deliver is left to the discretion of the pharmacy.
3. The pharmacy must advise the beneficiary or their designee, either verbally or in writing (e.g., a patient information leaflet) of the correct handling and storage of the delivered prescriptions.

Pharmacy Dispensing of Drugs That Require Administration by a Practitioner

NYS Medicaid recognizes the need for certain drugs requiring administration by a practitioner to be available to members by way of both the Medical Benefit and Pharmacy Benefit. Such practitioner-administered drugs are listed on the [Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable Drugs](#) and may be billed directly to the Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) program by a pharmacy. **Nothing in this policy is meant to suggest that all practitioner-administered drugs must be dispensed as a Pharmacy Benefit.** The policy regarding practitioner-administered drug billing is addressed in the Physician's Manual found here:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Physician/index.aspx>.

Practitioner-administered drugs dispensed as a Pharmacy Benefit must be delivered by the pharmacy directly to the site of administration. This is considered "white bagging" and is acceptable under the following guidelines:

1. Drugs should only be dispensed by the pharmacy directly to the patient when they are to be self-administered. The policy surrounding self-administered drug delivery is found in the [July 2019 Medicaid Update](#).
2. Prior to delivery of a practitioner-administered drug the dispensing pharmacy must confirm the delivery address, that the member still requires the drug, that an appointment has been scheduled and confirmed for its administration. **Automatic refills are not permitted.** The policy surrounding refills is found in the [March 2018 Medicaid Update](#).
3. Delivery charges may not be billed to the member or Medicaid.
4. The pharmacy is responsible for preparing and delivering the drug in accordance with administration guidelines in the package insert, as well as the replacement of improperly stored, lost, or stolen drugs until confirmed receipt by the authorized agent.
5. The pharmacy is required to obtain documentation of delivery by the receipt of a signature of an authorized agent at the site of administration.
6. All Medicaid claims for drugs that were not deliverable must be reversed within 60 days.

7. Once delivered and signed for, the site of administration is responsible for replacement of improperly stored, handled, lost, or stolen practitioner-administered drugs.

Practitioner-administered drugs dispensed directly to a patient by the pharmacy to bring to their practitioner's office for administration is considered "***brown bagging***," and causes concern regarding proper storage or handling, which can affect the drug's efficacy. Brown bagging is not acceptable under NYS Medicaid.

This policy refers to any drug being dispensed by a pharmacy for practitioner-administration to a Medicaid FFS member, including those billed as a secondary payment.

Unused Medication

Under certain situations, returns of unused medications by a long term care facility to the pharmacy may be returned per the Rules of the Board of Regents Part 29; the vendor pharmacy to which drug products are returned shall reimburse or credit the purchaser of such drug products for the unused medication that is restocked and re-dispensed and shall not otherwise charge any individual resident or the State, if a resident is a Medicaid beneficiary or beneficiary of a State-funded program, for unused medication or drug products returned for reimbursement or credit, per Title 10 NYCRR 415.18(f).

Nursing homes and pharmacies providing pharmacy services to nursing homes are encouraged to review their protocols to assure these requirements are met:

- Drug products returned must be sealed in unopened, individually packaged, units and within the recommended period of shelf life for the purpose of re-dispensing.
- Drug products returned should show no obvious sign of deterioration.
- Drug products packaged in manufacturer's unit-dose packages may be returned provided that they are re-dispensed in time for use before the expiration date, if any, indicated on the package.

Drug products repackaged by the pharmacy into unit-dose or multiple-dose "blister packs" may be returned for re-dispensing provided that:

- The date on which the drug product was repackaged, its lot number and expiration date are indicated clearly on the package;
- Not more than 90 days have elapsed from the date of the repackaging;

- A repackaging log is maintained by the pharmacy;
- Partially used blister packs may be re-dispensed only as returned.
- Partially used blister packs may not be emptied and repackaged.
- Additional units of medication may not be added to partially used blister packs.
- No drug product dispensed in bulk in a dispensing container may be returned.
- No medication or drug product defined as a controlled substance may be returned.

Frequency, Quantity and Duration (F/Q/D) Limits

Prescription, non-prescription drugs and medical/surgical supplies may have fixed limits in the amount and/or frequency that can be dispensed. NY Medicaid considers Frequency, Quantity, and Duration (F/Q/D) recommendations made by the Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board. Some of the drugs/drug classes affected by F/Q/D editing are also included in the Preferred Drug Program (PDP). Therefore, drugs/drug classes that have a preferred status can also be subject to F/Q/D editing.

System messaging has been developed to help guide the pharmacists to appropriately submit the claim or to refer to the prescriber.

For certain medical/surgical supplies, if the limit on an item is exceeded, prior approval must be requested with accompanying documentation as to why the limit needs to be exceeded. Quantity and frequency limits are available in the OTC and Supply Fee Schedule section of this manual:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/index.aspx>

Questions on medical/surgical supplies may be referred to the Division of Operations at:

(518)-474-8161

The following links have been provided as helpful resources for information on the PDP, F/Q/D and Step Therapy Programs: <https://newyork.fhsc.com/> and http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/dur/index.htm.

Questions on prescription Frequency, Quantity and Duration (F/Q/D) Limits may be referred to the NY Medicaid Clinical Call Center at:

1-877-309-9493

Generic Drug Substitution Policy

All Medicaid pharmacy providers must comply with all State requirements adopted pursuant to NY State drug substitution laws. Additionally, as a result of the Medicaid Mandatory Generic Drug Program, prior authorization must be obtained for most brand-name drugs with an “A-rated” generic equivalent before dispensing.

Prior Authorization Programs

The Medicaid program requires prior authorization for certain drugs under the following programs:

- Preferred Drug Program (PDP)
- Brand When Less Than Generic Program (BLTG)
- Dose Optimization Initiative
- Clinical Drug Review Program (CDRP)
- Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Program
- Mandatory Generic Drug Program (MGDP)

Prescribers may need to obtain prior authorizations for certain drugs. General information on the prescription drug prior authorizations, including the above programs, can be found at the following website: <https://newyork.fhsc.com>.

Note: If a prior authorization number has not been obtained by the prescriber and the pharmacist is unable to reach the prescriber, the pharmacist may obtain a prior authorization for up to a 72-hour emergency supply of a multi-source brand-name or non-preferred drug, subject to state laws and Medicaid restrictions. Once a 72-hour supply prior authorization number is given and a 72-hour supply is dispensed, the prescription is no longer valid for the remaining quantity and refills. The pharmacist is expected to follow-up with the prescriber to determine future needs.

Pharmacy Program information is available on the Medicaid Pharmacy Program website at: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/pharmacy.htm.

PAXPRESS

Medicaid enrolled prescribers can initiate prior authorization requests using a web-based application. PAXpress is a web-based pharmacy PA request/response application accessible from the eMedNY website at <https://www.emedny.org> as well as the NY Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Program website at: <https://newyork.fhsc.com/>.

The PAXpress website provides a single point of entry for prescriber access to announcements, documents and quick links to important program information.

A user manual is accessible from the eMedNY website and provides information for using the PAXpress application:

https://www.emedny.org/info/paxpress/PAXpress_User_Manual.pdf.

Pharmacists are not authorized to submit for a Prior Authorization except for the 72-hour emergency supply as mentioned above.

Pharmacists as Immunizers

Reimbursement is provided to Medicaid enrolled pharmacies for vaccines and anaphylaxis agents administered by certified pharmacists within the scope of their practice within all Medicaid polices.

A link to the latest billing information can be found on the following website under “Pharmacists as Immunizers”:

https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/pharmacy.htm

Service Limits

Selected items of medical/surgical supplies have limits in the amount and frequency that can be dispensed to an eligible Medicaid beneficiary. If a beneficiary exceeds the limit on an item, prior approval must be requested with accompanying documentation as to why the limits need to be exceeded.

For more information, please refer to the Fee Schedule at:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/DME/index.aspx>

Medicaid/Medicare Reimbursement

Pharmacies enrolled in the *Medicaid* Program as a billing provider are required to demonstrate participation in the *Medicare* Program. Medicaid pharmacy enrollment information can be accessed online at:

<https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/index.aspx>.

Medicare benefits must be maximized prior to billing Medicaid. Services covered by both Medicare and Medicaid must first be billed to Medicare. Pharmacy providers can bill Medicaid only after payment information is received from Medicare. For audit purposes, payment information must be retained for a minimum of six years following the date of payment.

For information on the reimbursement methodology of dual eligible individuals, please refer to the June 2015 Medicaid Update, found at:

https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2015/jun15_mu.pdf

Medicare Part A

Medicare Part A covers inpatient care, including critical access hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities (not custodial or long-term care). It also covers hospice care and some home health care. Beneficiaries must meet certain conditions to receive these benefits.

Medicare Part B

Medicare Part B covers doctors' services, outpatient care and some other medical services that Part A does not cover. Information regarding Medicare Part B outpatient covered drugs can be found here: <https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/prescription-drugs-outpatient> Medicare Part B covers certain drugs such as:

- Drugs used with an item of durable medical equipment
- Some antigens
- Injectable osteoporosis drugs
- Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents
- Blood clotting factors
- Injectable and infused drugs
- Oral End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) drugs
- Parenteral and enteral nutrition (intravenous and tube feeding)
- Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIG) provided in the home
- Vaccinations
- Immunosuppressive drugs following a Medicare paid transplant
- Oral cancer drugs
- Oral anti-nausea drugs
- Self-administered drugs in hospital outpatient setting.

For Medicaid/Medicare crossover claims, even for a procedure that would have required Medicaid prior approval, prior approval is not required since Medicare approved and paid for a service and/or procedure.

The total Medicare/Medicaid payment to the pharmacy provider will not exceed the amount that the pharmacy provider would have received for a Medicaid-only patient. If the Medicare payment is greater than the Medicaid fee, no additional payment will be made.

Note: The Medicare and Medicaid payment (if any) must be accepted as payment in full. Per State regulation, a pharmacy provider of a Medicare Part B benefit cannot seek

to recover any Medicare Part B deductible or coinsurance amounts from Medicare/Medicaid Dually Eligible Individuals.

Medicare Part D

Medicare beneficiaries who also have Medicaid, also known as dual-eligibles must be enrolled in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan in order to maintain their Medicaid coverage. Medicaid does not cover any class of drugs covered under Medicare Part D for full-benefit dual eligible beneficiaries. Beneficiaries and their prescribers must work together to find an appropriate drug that is covered by the Part D plan or, if necessary, use the Part D plan's exception and appeals process to obtain coverage for necessary prescriptions not listed on the plan's formulary.

Under the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit most drug costs are paid for by Medicare. Medicaid only pays for drugs from the List of Medicaid Reimbursable Drugs where the drug class is specifically excluded by law from being covered under the Part D plans, such as:

- Select prescription vitamins; and
- Certain non-prescription drugs.

All claims for dual-eligibles submitted to Medicaid are subject to Medicaid rules, including prior authorization.

For more information regarding Medicare Part D benefit, refer to the DOH website at: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_transition/index.htm.

Home Infusion

The New York State Medicaid Program does not provide a bundled payment to cover drugs, supplies and services associated with home infusion treatments. Home infusion drugs and supplies must be billed as a pharmacy or medical benefit.

The list of Medicaid reimbursable drugs available as a pharmacy benefit may be accessed at:

<http://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.html>.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requires coverage of home infusion drugs under Medicare Part D that are not currently covered under Parts A and B of Medicare. Information on Medicare coverage of home infusion can be found here: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/Home-Infusion-Therapy/Overview.html>.

Monitoring

Federal regulations require that pharmacy providers be monitored in order to assure that reimbursement for drugs is made at the lowest possible level, consistent with accurate cost information. This monitoring will consist of on-site and data reviews to verify that the pharmacy is submitting accurately priced claims.

Section II - General Guidelines

Pharmacy Provider Enrollment

NY Medicaid FFS enrolls open door, full service, established community pharmacies located in NY under Category of Service code (COS) 0441 according to the needs of the Medicaid beneficiary population and the availability of services from currently enrolled pharmacy providers. A full-service pharmacy is one that dispenses a full range of prescription drugs and supplies (such as diabetic supplies, i.e., lancets and glucose test strips). An established pharmacy is one that has an active State Registration; and is open, viable, and dispensing medications.

NY Medicaid does not enroll out of state, mail order, compounding, infusion, Long Term Care, or specialty pharmacies as billing providers unless the Department determines an unmet need for such pharmacy enrollment. Pharmacies choosing to service only Medicaid managed care members must be part of the plan's network and enrolled in NY Medicaid as a non-billing pharmacy provider.

Billing pharmacies require active Medicare participation prior to enrollment; Non-billing pharmacies are not required to enroll in Medicare. All Medicaid enrolled pharmacies, both billing and non-billing, are subject to the Federal screening requirements.

All enrolled pharmacies must follow all NY State laws, regulations, and policies, including maintaining active State Registration.

More information about the Pharmacy Provider application process can be found here: <https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/index.aspx>.

Who May Dispense

Drugs and medical/surgical supplies may be dispensed to Medicaid beneficiaries by pharmacists/pharmacies which are licensed and currently registered by the New York State Board of Pharmacy, New York State Education Department, and which are enrolled in the New York State Medicaid Program.

Drugs may also be provided by a prescribing practitioner under certain circumstances.

Medical/surgical supplies may also be provided by an enrolled home health agency or durable medical equipment dealer.

Who May Prescribe

Practitioners authorized to prescribe by New York State must be enrolled in the Medicaid Program in order to prescribe to NY Medicaid beneficiaries. Enrollment information may be found here:

<https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/index.aspx>.

All prescriptions/fiscal orders must comply with relevant State Education Law requirements.

Additionally, other requirements include:

- Enrolled Registered Physician Assistants (RPAs) may prescribe orders subject to any limitations imposed by the supervising physician. The Medicaid beneficiary must be under the care of the physician responsible for the supervision of the RPA.

Exemptions from Ordering/Referring/Attending Enrollment Requirement

- Services ordered/referred by unlicensed residents, interns, or foreign physicians in a training program when supervised by an NY Medicaid Enrolled physician.

NY Medicaid does not allow the enrollment of unlicensed practitioners; therefore, pharmacy claims for services ordered by unlicensed residents, interns and foreign physicians in training programs will initially reject for National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Reject code “56” (*Non-Matched Prescriber ID*). This means the prescriber is **not** enrolled in Medicaid.

The following information must be included on the claim to override the above rejection for unlicensed residents, interns, or foreign physicians in training programs:

- Field 439-E4 (Reason for Service Code): enter “PN” (*Prescriber Consultation*)
- Field 441-E6 (Result of Service Code): enter applicable value (“1A”, “1B”, “1C”, “1D”, “1E”, “1F”, “1G”, “1H”, “1J”, “1K”, “2A”, “2B”, “3A”, “3B”, “3C”, “3D”, “3E”, “3F”, “3G”, “3H”, “3J”, “3K”, “3M”, “3N”, “4A”)
- Field 420-DK (Submission Clarification Code): enter “02” (*Other Override*)

If the above override is attempted for a non-enrolled licensed practitioner, the claim will continue to be denied, in which case a new prescription from an enrolled licensed

practitioner must be initiated. The Medicaid beneficiary for whom the new prescription is initiated, must be under the care of the practitioner that is initiating the new prescription.

Free Choice

The choice of which pharmacy provider will fill the prescription or order for drugs rests with the Medicaid beneficiary. The prescribing practitioner should obtain the Medicaid beneficiary's pharmacy choice before prescribing any prescription or fiscal order in order to allow the Medicaid beneficiary to exercise his or her freedom of choice.

Record-Keeping Requirements

Pharmacies must keep on file the original prescription or fiscal order for which Medicaid payment is claimed. These original prescriptions and fiscal orders must be kept on file for six years from the date the service is provided or billed, whichever is later.

Pharmacies are not required to generate and keep a hard copy of electronic prescriptions and fiscal orders as long as they are securely stored and maintained. When stored electronically, the electronic imaging of prescriptions and fiscal orders that were e-prescribed must result in an exact reproduction of the original order and may be required to be authenticated.

Telephone Orders

Prescribers may telephone prescriptions and fiscal orders for drugs directly to a pharmacy unless otherwise prohibited by State or Federal law or regulations.

- Telephoned non-controlled prescription drug orders are considered original. Follow up hard copy is not required.
- Telephoned controlled prescriptions must follow all rules in 10 NYCRR Part 80 including the requirement of an original order (follow up hard copy) provided to the pharmacy from the prescriber within timeframe specified.
- Telephoned fiscal orders for OTC drugs or DME items or supplies are not considered original; the pharmacy must obtain the original signed fiscal order (follow up hard copy) from the ordering practitioner within 30 calendar days of the documented telephone order date.

The pharmacist is responsible to make a good faith effort to verify the prescriber's identity and validity of the prescription if the prescriber is unknown to the pharmacist.

- A telephone order must be reduced to writing, either through written communication or electronic record, indicating the time of the call and initials of the pharmacist.
- The format used to record the telephone order must conform to requirements of the NY State Education Law with regard to permitting substitution or dispensing as ordered.
- Prescriptions for multi-source brand drugs requiring “dispense as written” and “brand necessary” may be ordered over the telephone.
 - ✦ When a pharmacy obtains a prescription over the telephone, it is the responsibility of the ordering prescriber to notate in the Medicaid beneficiary’s medical record in his/her own handwriting that the drug is “brand medically necessary,” the reason that a brand name multi-source drug is required, and the prior authorization number for the drug if applicable. See Mandatory Generic Drug Program: https://newyork.fhsc.com/providers/MGDP_about.asp

Faxed Orders

Prescribers may fax prescriptions and fiscal orders for drugs directly to a pharmacy unless otherwise prohibited by State or federal law or regulations.

The pharmacist is responsible to make a good faith effort to verify the validity of the prescription and the prescriber’s identity if the prescriber is unknown to the pharmacist.

- A faxed order must originate from a secure and unblocked fax number. The source fax number must be clearly visible on the fax that is received.
- A faxed order must include the physician stamp **and** signature.
- Each faxed prescription or fiscal order may include only one (1) drug on a serialized [Official New York State Prescription Form](#). Lists of drugs are not acceptable as faxed orders. Non-controlled drugs ordered from a nursing home are exempt from this requirement.
- Faxed orders for prescription drugs, OTCs, and DME not on the Official New York State Prescription form are not considered an original order and require a follow up hard copy.

Electronic Orders

Pharmacies are not required to generate and keep a hard copy of electronic prescriptions and electronic fiscal orders. Original orders received in electronic format may be securely stored electronically.

The pharmacist is responsible to make a good faith effort to verify the validity of the prescription and the prescriber's identity if the prescriber is unknown to the pharmacist.

- Electronic imaging of prescriptions and fiscal orders must result in an exact reproduction of the original order and may be required to be authenticated.

Section III - Scope of Pharmacy Benefits

List of Reimbursable Drugs

The List of Medicaid Reimbursable Drugs has been established by the New York State Commissioner of Health. Only those prescription and non-prescription drugs which appear on the List are reimbursable under the fee-for-service Medicaid Program. The List also contains those non-prescription therapeutic categories which the Commissioner of Health has specified as essential in meeting the medical needs of Medicaid beneficiaries.

The entire List is available electronically at: <https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>

The List includes the following information:

- Rx Type: identifies Prescription Type (value 01 indicates non-controlled legend drugs; values 02 through 06 indicate controlled substances; 07 indicates OTC drugs and supplies billed by NDC);
- National Drug Code (NDC);
- Maximum Reimbursable Amount (MRA Cost);
- Cost Alternate (ALT): identifies the NADAC price (when available) for drugs (other than blood products and diabetic supplies) when MRA Cost is less than the NADAC;
- Formulary Description (drug name and strength);

- PA CD (Prior Authorization/Approval Code): Value “0” indicates no PA required; Value “N” indicates PA required; Value “G” indicates PA required/may be required;
- Labeler (manufacturer);
- OTC IND (OTC Indicator): Indicates whether an over-the-counter medication meets the definition of a Covered Outpatient Drug (Y) or not (N).

Note: Reimbursable drugs are listed alphabetically in sections by Rx Type.

Drug Coverage Limitations

Medicaid only provides reimbursement for drugs included on the [New York State List of Medicaid Reimbursable Drugs](#) (unless provided by a facility which includes the cost of drugs in their all-inclusive rate). The following are examples of drugs/drug uses which are not reimbursable by Medicaid:

- Amphetamine and amphetamine-like drugs which are used for the treatment of obesity;
- Drugs whose sole clinical use is the reduction of weight;
- Drugs for the treatment of erectile dysfunction;
- Any item marked “sample” or “not for sale”;
- Any contrast agents, used for radiological testing (these are included in the radiologist’s fee);
- Any drug which does not have a National Drug Code;
- Drugs packaged in unit doses for which bulk product exists; and
- Any drug regularly supplied to the general public free of charge must also be provided free of charge to Medicaid beneficiaries.

Medical/Surgical Supplies

Prescribing practitioners may order medical/surgical supplies which are listed in the [OTC and Supply Fee Schedule](#). If a medical/surgical supply does not appear in the OTC and Supply Fee Schedule, the practitioner may request the supply through the prior approval process.

Coverage for “Emergency Services Only” Category of Service

Medicaid FFS does **not** reimburse all covered drugs for patients with coverage for “Emergency Services only”. Medicaid coverage may be available for services that are necessary for the treatment of an “emergency medical condition”. Per federal regulation, the term emergency medical condition is defined as a medical condition (including emergency labor and delivery) manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in:

- (a) Placing the patient’s health in serious jeopardy;
- (b) Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
- (c) Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

Coverage will not be extended for medications when the federal definition of an “emergency medical condition” is not met regardless of where the prescription is being obtained (i.e. emergency department). Drugs not included in “emergency services coverage” will not change based on the type of facility at which a patient receives their prescription.

A list of covered drugs for the Emergency Services category of eligibility can be found at: http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt_phase_3.htm.

Please note:

- Short acting narcotics should only be written for an emergency 5-day supply.
- HIV prophylaxis therapy following occupational exposure & non-occupational exposure (such as sexual assault) can be obtained via the exception/override process.

Exception/Override Requests: A letter of medical necessity from the prescriber is required for any medications not listed as an emergency services covered drug. If approved, NY Medicaid will send the dispensing pharmacy written authorization specific to the medication approved and duration of coverage. The override is only applicable to the **approved** prescriptions, pharmacy, and patient documented in the letter.

The NY Medicaid letter of authorization to dispense **must** be kept on file by the pharmacy in the event of an audit.

Dispensing Limitations for Items Provided by Residential Health Care Facilities

New York State residential health care facilities have included in their Medicaid rates non-prescription drugs and medical/surgical supplies. All prescription drugs are reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis. Residential health care facilities may:

- Operate an institutional pharmacy to provide these items; or
- Contract with Medicaid enrolled community pharmacies to provide these items to Medicaid beneficiaries. The pharmacy must be reimbursed by the facility for all non-prescription drugs and medical/surgical supplies. Prescription drugs may be billed directly to Medicaid by the dispensing pharmacy on a fee-for-service basis.

Drugs billed directly to Medicaid are limited to prescription drugs included on the New York State Medicaid List of Reimbursable Drugs and are subject to refill, frequency, quantity and duration, step therapy, and prior authorization/approval requirements as described in this Manual.

Medicaid beneficiaries with both Medicare and Medicaid (dual eligible Medicaid beneficiaries) who have met their residency requirements in a residential health care facility will receive their prescription drug coverage from their Medicare Part D Plan. Additional information regarding the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program and residential health care facilities may be accessed at:

https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_transition/

Items Provided by Child (Foster) Care Agencies

Most New York State Child (Foster) Care Agencies have included in their Medicaid rates prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs and medical/surgical supplies. Child (Foster) Care Agencies may:

- operate an institutional pharmacy to provide these items; or
- contract with Medicaid enrolled pharmacies to provide these items to Medicaid residents. The pharmacy must be reimbursed by the facility for these items.

Child (Foster) Care Agencies with inclusive Medicaid rates for drugs and supplies may dispense these items to Medicaid residents regardless of the refill, frequency, quantity and duration, step therapy, and prior authorization/approval limitations described in this Manual.

Only drugs specifically carved out of the Medicaid all-inclusive rate may be billed directly to the Medicaid Program. Drugs carved out and billed directly to Medicaid are subject to refill, frequency, quantity and duration, step therapy and prior authorization/approval requirements as described in this Manual.

OMH Residential Treatment Facility Prescription Drug Carve-Out

Reimbursement of **prescription** drugs for children and youth between the ages of five and twenty-one who are residents of the Office of Mental Health (OMH) Residential Treatment Facilities (RTF) is a Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) benefit and billed directly to Medicaid by the dispensing pharmacy.

Physician administered drugs, OTC drugs, medical supplies, immunization services (vaccines and their administration), nutritional supplies, sick room supplies, adult diapers, and durable medical equipment (DME) are not carved out of the RTF rate and remain the responsibility of the facility.

- The NY Medicaid FFS program provides reimbursement for prescription drugs included on the NY Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable Drugs, which can be found at:
<https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>.
- Prescriptions must be dispensed and billed by a Medicaid enrolled pharmacy, using the beneficiary's individual Medicaid Client Identification Number (CIN).

Smoking Cessation Policy

- Smoking cessation therapy consists of certain prescription and non-prescription agents.
- Some smoking cessation therapies may be used together. Professional judgment should be exercised when dispensing multiple smoking cessation products.
- For all smoking cessation products, the beneficiary must have a prescription or fiscal order.
- NY Medicaid reimburses for over-the-counter nicotine patches included on the [Medicaid List of Reimbursable Drugs](#).

Emergency Contraception Drug Policy

Both prescription and OTC Emergency Contraception is a Covered Benefit for all Medicaid Fee-for-Service beneficiaries without age restrictions. This includes individuals enrolled in the Family Planning Benefit Program.

Per NY State regulations, a **fiscal order or prescription is not required for OTC emergency contraception for Medicaid-eligible females**. Prescription-only contraceptive drugs continue to require a practitioner order. Both prescription-only and OTC emergency contraception is limited to six courses of therapy in a 12-month period.

For more information, please go to:
<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2018/>

Section IV - Basis of Payment

Covered Outpatient Drugs (COD) are defined in Federal statute. The following link provides information on the COD Policy & FAQ per CMS:

<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/prescription-drugs/covered-outpatient-drug-policy/index.html>.

Prescription Drugs

Pharmacy reimbursement for prescription drugs under the New York State Medicaid Program is established in law.

The pricing methodology is systematically determined as follows:

Drug Type	If NADAC is available reimburse at:	If NADAC is unavailable, reimburse at:	Professional Dispensing Fee*
Generics	Lower of NADAC, FUL, SMAC or U&C	Lower of WAC – 17.5%, FUL, SMAC, or U&C	\$10.08
Brands	Lower of NADAC or U&C	Lower of WAC – 3.3%, or U&C	\$10.08
OTCs	Lower of NADAC, FUL, SMAC or U&C	Lower of WAC, FUL, SMAC, or U&C	\$10.08

* **Professional Dispensing Fee** applies if the drug meets the definition of COD and is not paid at U&C.

Note: Claims will pay at the pharmacy's U&C pricing if lower than drug ingredient cost plus dispensing fee.

Federal Upper Limit (FUL) is determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, a price ceiling used by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to control prices for certain medications paid to pharmacies.

National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) is determined by a federal survey and is an average of the drug acquisition costs submitted by retail community pharmacies.

State Maximum Acquisition Cost (SMAC) is developed by Magellan Medicaid Administration for NY Medicaid and is applied on multiple source generic drugs. It represents an upper limit that NY Medicaid will pay for these drugs.

Usual and Customary Cost (U&C) is the lowest net charge to the general public/cash customers on the date of provision of service, not to exceed the lower sale price, if any, in effect on that date.

Wholesaler Acquisition Cost (WAC) is an estimate of the manufacturer's list price for a drug to wholesalers or other direct purchasers, not including discounts or rebates. The price is defined by federal law.

The NY Medicaid Pharmacy Benefit Manager will receive all requests from pharmacy providers concerning the validity of a SMAC price. The SMAC Research Request Form is posted on the Pharmacy Benefit Manager's web site at:
<https://newyork.fhsc.com/providers/smacinfo.asp>

Questions from pharmacy providers concerning the validity of a SMAC price should be referred to the NY Medicaid Clinical Call Center at (877) 309-9493.

Non-Prescription Drugs

NY Medicaid covers limited non-prescription (OTC) drugs. OTCs covered by the Medicaid FFS Program can be identified under Rx Type '07' in the List of Reimbursable Drugs found at the following website: <https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>. Not all OTCs meet the definition of a COD. Those OTC drugs that meet the definition of a COD will have an OTC indicator value of "Y".

- When performing a search, select field "OTC Indicator" and then select a value of "Y"

Multiple Source Drugs

Reimbursement is only available for those multiple source drugs contained on the List of Medicaid Reimbursable Drugs.

For certain brand name prescriptions to be eligible for reimbursement, prescribers must certify that the brand name drug is required by writing directly on the face of the prescription "Brand Necessary" or "Brand Medically Necessary" in their own handwriting in addition to the "DAW", unless the brand drug is on the Brand Less Than Generic Program.

For handwritten orders, a rubber stamp or other mechanical signature device may not be used.

In the case of electronic prescriptions, the prescriber MUST insert an electronic direction as stated above.

Prior authorization must also be obtained for certain brand name drugs.

In order to dispense a brand name drug when the prescriber indicates “DAW” and, in the case of a prescription written on serialized official NY State prescription form, “Brand Necessary” or “Brand Medically Necessary” on the face of the prescription, the pharmacist must indicate a “yes” in the brand necessary field of the paper claim form or when billing electronically, refer to the NCPDP D.0 Companion Guide for one of the listed codes for submission in field 408-D8- (Dispense As Written (DAW)/Product Selection Code).

For more information, refer to:

https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/ProDURECCA_Provider_Manual/index.aspx

Compounded Prescriptions

A Compounded Prescription is one in which two or more ingredients are mixed by the dispensing pharmacist. All Medicaid pharmacy providers must comply with all federal and State requirements for compounding prescriptions. For more information, see also: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration: <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/PharmacyCompounding/default.htm>, and NY State Education Law, Pharmacy; Laws, Rules, and Regulations; <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pharm/pharmlaw.htm>.

Topical compounded drug product ingredients must also be FDA approved or compendia supported for topical use. For more information on Federal and State regulations of topical compounded drugs visit: <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/PharmacyCompounding/ucm376733.htm>

In order to qualify for Medicaid payment, a compounded prescription must include:

- A combination of any two (2) or more legend drugs found on the list of Medicaid Reimbursable Prescription Drugs; or
- A combination of any legend drug(s) included on the list of Medicaid Reimbursable Prescription Drugs and any other item(s) not commercially available as an ethical or proprietary product(s); or
- A combination of two (2) or more products which are labeled “*Caution: For Manufacturing Purposes Only.*”

The reconstitution of a commercially available drug is NOT regarded as a compounding procedure for NY Medicaid reimbursement.

For example:

- The combination of Aquaphor® and Hydrocortisone Cream 2.5% is **NOT** considered a compound, since it does not meet any of the above requirements.
- Intravenous prescription products that require reconstitution, further measurement, dilution and/or instillation into a suitable device (i.e., minibag, IV reservoir or syringe) for administration are not considered to have been compounded and should not be submitted for reimbursement as compounds.

For compound drug billing, pharmacy providers can submit up to 25 ingredients (NDCs) using the compound segment via the NCPDP D.0 format. All ingredients of a compounded prescription **MUST** be submitted to Medicaid regardless of reimbursement. Compound drugs will be returned on the 835 Remittance Advice using the first ingredient's NDC Code of the Compound drug in SVC01-2 (Procedure Code) with an "N4" Qualifier in SVC01-1.

All compound claims must include Route of Administration code in NCPDP field 995-E2.

Some compounds may require a Topical Compounded Prior Authorization (PA). Prescribers may obtain this type of PA via the Magellan call center; then the prescriber will provide the PA number to the pharmacy.

For billing information, see Pharmacy Billing Guidelines at:
<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/index.aspx>

A Medicaid list of reimbursable drugs can be found at:
<https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>

340B Pharmacy Drug Claims in Medicaid

Upon enrollment in the 340B program, 340B covered entities must determine whether they will use 340B drugs for their Medicaid patients.

Federal law prohibits duplicate discounts – manufacturers are not required to provide a discounted 340B price and a Medicaid drug rebate for the same drug. The federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has rules and requirements for when a covered entity uses 340B drugs for Medicaid beneficiaries, including listing the entity's Medicaid provider number/NPI on the HRSA Medicaid Exclusion File (MEF). Information on HRSA's requirements in this area can be found at the following site:
<http://www.hrsa.gov/opa/programrequirements/medicaidexclusion/index.html>.

The NY Medicaid program does **not** use HRSA’s Medicaid Exclusion File. NY Medicaid relies completely on the use of 340B claim level identifiers to avoid duplicate discounts. **These identifiers are required at the claim submission level for all 340B drug claims**, thereby avoiding duplicate discounts. Using these identifiers is the **only** way NY Medicaid will remove the claim from rebate invoicing.

The following fields are required on Medicaid 340B drug claims submitted in the NCPDP format:

Field	Medicaid Primary Claim	Medicaid Secondary Claim (Medicare; Commercial)
420-DK, Submission Clarification Code (SCC)	20	20
423-DN, Basis of Cost Determination (BCD)	08	N/A
409-D9 Ingredient Cost Submitted	340B Acquisition Cost	N/A
426-DQ Usual and Customary Cost (U&C)	Lowest Net Charge to Cash Customers	Lowest Net Charge to Cash Customers

FAQs on the 340B program itself, as well as information on how to ask additional questions, can be found on the HRSA website at <https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/faqs/index.html>

Medical and Surgical Supplies

Reimbursement for each covered medical/surgical supply will be the lower of:

- The price as indicated on the New York State List of Medical/Surgical Supplies;
- or-
- The usual and customary price charged to the general public.

"Covered supplies" are those on the OTC and Supply Fee Schedule section of this manual: <https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/index.aspx>

For supplies not on that list, only those supplies for which the prescriber has obtained prior approval are covered.

Co-payments for Drugs and Medical Supplies

The New York State Medicaid Program charges co-payments for many drug and medical supply items.

Health care providers have an obligation to provide services and goods regardless of a Medicaid beneficiary's ability to pay co-payments.

- Pharmacy providers may not refuse services to otherwise eligible Medicaid beneficiaries who cannot afford to pay the co-payment. ***To refuse to provide services is an unacceptable practice.***
- Pharmacy providers may:
 - Request the co-payment each time a Medicaid beneficiary is provided services or goods;
 - Ask a Medicaid beneficiary for outstanding co-payments the next time he/she comes in;
 - Send the Medicaid beneficiary bills; or
 - Use other legal means to collect the co-pay due.
- Pharmacy providers must not reduce the amount charged on a Medicaid claim by the copayment that is collected from a Medicaid beneficiary. Each claim that requires a co-payment will have the co-payment ***automatically deducted*** from the final payment when the claim is approved for payment.

Medicaid Co-payments:

- Some Medicaid beneficiaries become eligible for Medicaid by spending part of their monthly income on medical care. Since co-payments paid or incurred can be used toward satisfying the spend-down (overage) in the following month, itemized bills or receipts for co-payments should be provided to beneficiaries when requested.
- There is a maximum amount per Medicaid beneficiary for all co-payments incurred per year. The co-payment year starts April 1 and ends March 31. When a beneficiary reaches the annual co-pay maximum, they will receive a letter confirming the date on which the co-pay maximum was met and exempting the beneficiary from a co-payment until the end of the current co-payment year.
- Co-payment amounts are as follows:
 - \$3.00 for non-preferred Brand Name Drugs;
 - \$1.00 for Generic Drugs, preferred Brand Name Drugs, and Brand Drugs included in the Brand Less Than Generic Drugs Program;

- \$0.50 for Non-Prescription (over the counter) Drugs;
 - \$1.00 for Medical/Sickroom Supplies.
- Co-payment is not required for certain beneficiaries and service categories which include:
- Family planning (birth control) services including birth control pills, Plan B, and condoms;
 - FDA-approved drugs to treat tuberculosis;
 - FDA-approved drugs to treat mental illness (psychotropic drugs);
 - Medicaid beneficiaries younger than 21 years old;
 - Medicaid beneficiaries during pregnancy and for the two months after the month in which the pregnancy ends;
 - Residents of Adult Care Facilities licensed by the New York State Department of Health (DOH);
 - Residents of nursing homes;
 - Residents of Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICF/DD);
 - Residents of Office of Mental Health (OMH) or Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) certified residences;
 - Beneficiaries in Comprehensive Medicaid Case Management (CMCM) or Service Coordination Programs;
 - Beneficiaries in OMH or OPWDD Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Programs; and
 - Beneficiaries in a DOH HCBS Waiver Program for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
 - Beneficiaries with incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty level.
 - Beneficiaries in Hospice

- American Indians and Alaska Natives who have ever received a service from the Indian Health Service, tribal health programs or under contract health services referral.

Section V - Utilization Management Programs

Eligibility

Pharmacy providers of Medicaid services are required to verify the eligibility of the Medicaid beneficiary. There are two methods available for utilization:

- 1) The Automated Response Unit (ARU or telephone);
- 2) The ePACES web-based application.

These systems enable pharmacy providers to quickly verify eligibility and facilitate electronic submission of claims.

Recipient Restriction Program (RRP)

Medicaid beneficiaries who have been assigned to a designated pharmacy are required to receive all pharmacy services from the selected pharmacy provider. All claims from other pharmacies will be denied.

Medicaid beneficiaries who are restricted to a primary Durable Medical Equipment (DME) dealer must receive all DME and prosthetic and orthotic appliances from the DME provider.

All primary pharmacy providers must maintain a patient profile for each restricted Medicaid beneficiary. The profile must contain, at a minimum, the beneficiary's name, and the date the drugs or supplies were dispensed. These profiles must be made readily available to the New York State Department of Health or its agents, upon request.

When a Medicaid beneficiary is restricted to an ordering practitioner (physician, clinic, inpatient hospital and/ or dentist), all pharmacy services must be ordered by the primary medical provider (clinic or MD) with the Medicaid beneficiary's restriction type.

A primary physician or primary clinic is responsible for providing all medical care to the restricted recipient, either directly or through referral of such recipient to another medical provider for appropriate services. If the primary provider refers the Medicaid restricted recipient to another provider for services, the primary provider's Medicaid identification number must be used in the referring field in order to bill for those services. **When**

dispensing medications prescribed by the ‘referred’ provider, the pharmacy must enter the primary provider’s Medicaid identification number in the referring field in the pharmacy claim.

Medicaid beneficiaries may have durable medical equipment restrictions separate from pharmacy restrictions.

Utilization Threshold

The Utilization Threshold (UT) program places limits on the number of services a Medicaid beneficiary may receive in a benefit year. A benefit year is a 12-month period which begins the month the beneficiary became Medicaid eligible.

Medicaid beneficiaries are assigned specific limits for the following services:

- Physician/Clinic Visits
- Laboratory Procedures
- Pharmacy
- Mental Health Clinic Visits
- Dental Clinic Visits

These service limits are established based on each beneficiary’s clinical information. This information includes diagnoses, procedures, prescription drugs, age and gender. As a result, most Medicaid beneficiaries have clinically appropriate service limit levels and will not need additional services authorized through the Threshold Override Application (TOA) process.

For details go to: <https://www.emedny.org/info/index.aspx> and click under Information tab for Utilization Threshold Program.

- Pharmacies encountering urgent or emergency situations should see the override instructions in the Provider Manual located at: https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/ProDURECCA_Provider_Manual/index.aspx

Pharmaceutical Management Programs

Overview

Drug Utilization Review (DUR) programs are intended to assure that prescriptions for outpatient drugs are appropriate, medically necessary and not likely to result in adverse medical consequences. DUR programs help to ensure that the patient receives the proper medicine at the right time in the correct dose and dosage form.

The benefits of DUR programs may include reduced Medicaid costs, reduced hospital admissions, improved health for Medicaid beneficiaries, increased coordination of health care services, and reduced drug diversion. Information supplied to Medicaid pharmacy providers through the DUR programs may enhance their ability to prescribe and dispense medication more appropriately.

The federal legislation requiring states to implement DUR programs also requires states to establish DUR Boards whose function is to play a major role in each state's DUR program. The Department of Health contains a DUR Board comprised of health care professionals with recognized knowledge and expertise appointed by the Commissioner. More information regarding the DUR Board and Program may be found here: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/dur/.

The two components of New York State's DUR program are Retrospective DUR (RetroDUR) and Prospective DUR (ProDUR). While the two programs work cooperatively, each seeks to achieve better patient care through different mechanisms.

Each of these programs is described in detail below.

RetroDUR

The Department of Health manages a RetroDUR program for Medicaid beneficiaries. The RetroDUR program is designed to educate physicians by targeting prescribing patterns which need to be improved. Under RetroDUR, a review is performed subsequent to the dispensing of the medication.

The primary goal of RetroDUR is to educate prescribers and pharmacists through alert letters which are sent to providers detailing potential drug therapy problems due to therapeutic duplication, drug-disease contraindications, drug-drug interactions, incorrect drug dosage or duration of drug treatment, drug allergy interactions and clinical abuse/misuse.

- It is expected that providers who receive alert letters identifying a potential problem relating to prescription drugs will take the appropriate corrective action to resolve the problem.

ProDUR

Medicaid enrolled pharmacies are required to perform in-house prospective drug utilization reviews. The Department of Health oversees a ProDUR program through the Medicaid Eligibility Verification System (MEVS).

The point-of-sale system allows pharmacists to perform on-line, real-time eligibility verifications, Electronic Claims Capture and Adjudication (ECCA) and offers protection

to Medicaid beneficiaries in the form of point-of-sale prevention against drug-induced illnesses.

The ProDUR/ECCA system maintains an on-line record of every Medicaid beneficiary's drug history for at least a 90-day period. The pharmacist enters information regarding each prescription and that information is automatically compared against previously dispensed drugs, checking for any duplicate prescriptions, drug to drug contraindications, over and under dosage and drug to disease alerts, among other checks.

In the event that this verification process detects a potential problem, the pharmacist will receive an on-line warning or rejection message. The pharmacist can then take the appropriate action; for example, contacting the prescribing physician to discuss the matter. The outcome might be not dispensing the drug, reducing the dosage, or changing to a different medication.

The ProDUR Program is administered by the Department's fiscal intermediary or its subcontractor. Use of the online DUR functions via MEVS by pharmacy providers, including those providers that are rate-based, is **mandatory**. Pharmacy providers are required to use personal computers or central processing units to access the online system either independently or through a switch company. Any data entered by the pharmacy provider is processed, including checking eligibility, third-party coverage, Utilization Threshold and Medicaid Recipient Restriction Program status before being passed to the DUR system.

The DUR system utilizes National Council on Prescription Drug Program (NCPDP) version D.O. NCPDP responses alert pharmacy providers to the type of drug interaction, drug/disease conflict, therapeutic duplication or over-utilization problems, and the most recent fill dates for the potentially hazardous drug.

A maximum of nine different codes/drug interactions per prescription per entry may be sequentially displayed for up to four prescriptions per entry.

All of the DUR messages are specified by the State DUR Board which is composed of doctors, pharmacists, and DUR experts in concert with the drug information contractors.

ProDUR Claims Submission

Pharmacy providers can submit most claims directly via the electronic claims adjudication system that was developed for the ProDUR system. If claim capture and adjudication is selected, the claim will be processed for eligibility verification, ProDUR, Utilization Threshold and, if requested, Dispensing Validation System (DVS). If approved, the claim will be fully adjudicated and paid.

For claims over 90 days from the date of service, a "non-captured" transaction may be submitted for eligibility verification but the claim must be submitted on a paper claim form or via electronic batch. See more about timely filing here:

https://www.emedny.org/HIPAA/QuickRefDocs/FOD-7001_Sub_Claims_Over_90_days_Old.pdf.

Certification for ProDUR/ECCA

All Medicaid pharmacy providers are required to perform on-line prospective drug utilization review. Submitting claims via Electronic Claims Capture and Adjudication (ECCA) is optional. Under ProDUR, all pharmacies must enter their transaction using the NCPDP formats via one of the MEVS access methods. NCPDP format specifications can be found at:

https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/ProDURECCA_Provider_Manual/index.aspx

PLEASE CONSULT THE MEVS DUR USER MANUAL FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION RELATING TO PRODUR, ELECTRONIC CLAIMS CAPTURE AND ADJUDICATION SUBMISSION AND MEVS ACCESS METHODS.

Section VI – Definitions

The following terms are defined for the purposes of the NY Medicaid program and are included to help clarify policies as provided in this Manual:

Bioavailability

The rate and extent to which the active ingredient or active moiety is absorbed from a drug product and becomes available at the site of action.

For drug products that are not intended to be absorbed into the bloodstream, bioavailability may be assessed by measurements intended to reflect the rate and extent to which the active ingredient or active moiety becomes available at the site of action.

Bioequivalence

Bioequivalence is the pharmaceutical equivalent or pharmaceutical alternative products that display comparable bioavailability when studied under similar experimental conditions.

Community Pharmacy

Community pharmacies are defined as either an independent pharmacy, a supermarket pharmacy, a chain pharmacy or a mass merchandiser pharmacy having a state license to dispense medications to the general public at retail prices as a pharmacy. Community pharmacies do not include a pharmacy that dispenses prescription medications to patients primarily through mail, nursing home pharmacies, long-term care facility pharmacies, hospital pharmacies, clinics, charitable or not-for-profit pharmacies, government pharmacies, or pharmacy benefit managers.

Dose

The exact amount of medication to be taken at one time or at stated intervals according to the prescriber's directions.

Electronic Prescription

As per New York State Education Law 6802 an electronic prescription is created, recorded or stored by electronic means; issued and validated with an electronic signature; and transmitted by electronic means directly from the prescriber to a pharmacist.

Federal Upper Limit

CMS establishes and issues listings that identify and set upper limits for multiple source drugs available for purchase by retail community pharmacies on a nationwide basis for which the FDA has rated at least three drug products as pharmaceutically and therapeutically equivalent.

Payment for these drugs must not exceed, in the aggregate, a reasonable dispensing fee plus an amount that is no less than 175 percent of the weighted Average Manufacturer Price (AMP).

Fiscal Order

A fiscal order is a request written by one of the following NY Medicaid Enrolled Provider to provide non-prescription drugs or medical/surgical supplies:

- Physician,
- Certified Nurse Practitioner,
- Midwife,

- Dentist,
- Podiatrist,
- Registered Physician's Assistant (RPA), or
- New York State Education Department-Certified Optometrist.

A fiscal order may be a signed written order on an Official NYS Prescription form or an e-prescribed order.

General Public

The general public is defined as the group accounting for the largest number of non-Medicaid transactions from the individual pharmacy and does not include other third-party payers.

Generic Equivalent

A generic equivalent drug product is one which:

- Has been certified or approved by the FDA as being safe and effective for its labeled indications for use, and a new-drug application or an abbreviated new drug application is held; and
- The FDA has evaluated such drug product as pharmaceutically and therapeutically equivalent and has listed such drug product on the list of approved drug products with the therapeutic equivalence evaluations.

Labeler

Any entity which is engaged in the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of prescription drug products, either directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of natural origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, or in the packaging, repackaging, labeling, re-labeling, or distribution of prescription drug products.

Such term does not include a wholesale distributor of drugs or a retail pharmacy licensed under State law.

Labeler is the entity holding legal title to or possession of the NDC number for the covered outpatient drug.

Medical and Surgical Supplies

Medical and surgical supplies include items for medical use other than drugs including prosthetic/orthotic appliances, durable medical equipment and orthopedic footwear.

These items are used to treat a specific medical condition and are usually consumable, non-reusable, disposable, for a specific purpose rather than incidental and generally have no salvageable value.

Medical and surgical supplies must be dispensed by a NY Medicaid enrolled provider who is licensed/registered by the appropriate authority, if existing, in the state in which the provider is located and in NY.

Examples of medical or surgical supplies include:

- Bandages,
- Gauze pads,
- Colostomy bags,
- Family planning devices,
- Catheters, and
- Irrigating kits.

Medical/surgical supplies do not include items and supplies that are useful to persons in the absence of an illness or injury or that are primarily used to service needs other than health needs.

Examples of consumable and non-reusable supplies that are not included under the Medicaid benefit are:

- Items of personal hygiene (soap, shampoo, baby wipes, disposable washcloths, skin moisturizers, etc.),
- Feminine hygiene items (sanitary belts, sprays, etc.) and
- Dental hygiene items (toothbrush, dentifrice, mouthwash, etc.).

Multiple Source Drug

A multiple source drug is a drug product marketed or sold by two or more labelers or sold by the same labeler under two or more different brand names.

Multiple source drugs are pharmaceutically equivalent and shown to meet an appropriate standard of bioequivalence.

NADAC

The National Average Drug Acquisition Cost for Medicaid covered outpatient drugs as calculated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

New York State List of Medicaid Reimbursable Drugs

A list consisting of the prescription and non-prescription drugs for which Medicaid will reimburse the enrolled pharmacy provider. This is available online at:

<https://www.emedny.org/info/fullform.pdf>

Non-Prescription Drug

A non-prescription drug, also known as an OTC drug, is that for which no prescription is required by NY State Education law or regulation.

Non-prescription drugs may be obtained in the Medicaid Program only upon an original fiscal order (either e-prescribed or written on ONYSRx form) from a prescriber.

Original Order

A prescription or fiscal order, received in written or electronic format, that is executed in accordance with all applicable State and federal laws or regulation; can also be known as a hard copy or follow up if written in response to an oral or faxed order.

Pharmaceutical Equivalent

The pharmaceutical equivalent is a drug product which contains the same active ingredient(s), are of the same dosage form, route of administration and are identical in strength or dosage form, or concentration.

Pharmaceutically equivalent drug products are formulated to contain the same amount of active ingredient in the same dosage form and to meet the same compendial or other

applicable standards (i.e.; strength, quality, purity, and identity), but they may differ in characteristics such as shape, scoring configuration, release mechanisms, packaging, excipients (including colors, flavors, preservatives), expiration time and within certain limits, labeling.

Prescribing Practitioner

A prescribing practitioner includes the following who are actively NY licensed and NY Medicaid enrolled:

- Physicians,
- Certified Nurse Practitioners,
- Midwives,
- Dentists,
- Podiatrists,
- Registered Physician Assistants, or
- New York State Education Department-certified optometrists licensed by law and currently registered to prescribe prescription drugs.

Unlicensed interns and residents may prescribe drugs (under the supervision of a licensed physician or dentist) as part of their official duties as members of a hospital staff. The Medicaid enrolled attending/supervising physician's name and NPI number must be provided on all prescriptions written by the unlicensed intern or resident.

Prescription Drug

A prescription drug includes any drug for which a prescription from a qualified licensed practitioner is required under New York State Education Law.

Prescription drugs are subject to the requirements of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and those stipulated by the State Commissioner of Health.

All controlled substances are prescription drugs.

Single Source Drug

A single source drug is a drug which is produced or distributed under an original new drug application approved by the FDA, including a drug product marketed by any cross licensed producers or distributors operating under the new drug application.

This product is not generic, nor is it available as a generic.

State Maximum Acquisition Cost

This is a reimbursement amount established for any drug for which two or more A-rated therapeutically equivalent, multi-source, non-innovator drugs with a significant cost difference exist.

The State Maximum Acquisition Cost (SMAC) will be determined taking into account drug price status, marketplace status, equivalency rating, and relative comparable pricing.

Therapeutic Equivalent

A drug product which is expected to have the same clinical effect and safety profile when administered to patients under the conditions specified in the labeling.

Usual and Customary Charge

This is the price a pharmacy charges to the general public.