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# NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program allows 90-Day Supplies of most Maintenance Medications and Over-the-Counter Drugs

## Why a 90-day supply?

- **Reduce administrative burden for prescribers and pharmacies.** Save time with fewer patient phone calls and reduced refill requests freeing up time for other patient focused care.
- **Improve patient medication adherence and health outcomes.** A survey conducted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) showed that adherence was 20% higher for patients prescribed a 90-day supply compared to the patients prescribed a 30-day supply.<sup>1</sup> Additional studies have shown that improving adherence can decrease hospitalization rates improve health outcomes.<sup>2,3</sup>
- **Increase convenience and reduce copay cost for patients.** Patients will make fewer trips to the pharmacy for refills and reduce their copay to one every 90 days. A 90-day supply provides patients with increased flexibility with more time between refills.

## Which drugs are eligible for 90-day supply?

- NYRx covers a 90-day supply for most maintenance medications and over the counter (OTC) drugs. A maintenance medication is a medication taken on a regular basis, often daily, to treat an ongoing or chronic condition or illness such as, but not limited to, **high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, asthma, depression, mild pain.**

## How do you get a 90-day supply?

- Patients should ask their prescriber if a 90-day supply is appropriate for the medication they are taking and request a prescription for a 90-day supply.
- Prescribers should consider writing for a 90-day supply and pharmacies should work with prescribers to switch to a 90-day supply **once a patient is on a stable dose** of a maintenance medication or OTC drug.

## Provider helpful hints

- **Prescribers- Electronic Health Records (EHR) Default Settings.** Check with your EHR provider to see if the default setting can be changed to a 90-day prescription supply.
- **Pharmacies-**The pharmacy can still dispense a 30-day supply on the 90-day prescription if requested.

## For more information:

NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program: <https://newyork.fhsc.com/>

NYRx Preferred Drug List: [https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx\\_PDP\\_PDL.pdf](https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_PDP_PDL.pdf)

NYRx List of Reimbursable Drugs: <https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>

NYS Department of Health, NYRx: [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/pharmacy.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/pharmacy.htm)

NYRx policy guidelines: [https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/PDFS/Pharmacy\\_Policy\\_Guidelines.pdf](https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/PDFS/Pharmacy_Policy_Guidelines.pdf)

NYRx billing/claims question should be directed to the **eMedNY Call Center** at 1-800-343-9000. The helpline hours are Mon-Fri 7 AM-10 PM, Sat & Sun 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

## References and Resources

1. [https://www.cms.gov/mmrr/Downloads/MMRR2012\\_002\\_03\\_A04.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/mmrr/Downloads/MMRR2012_002_03_A04.pdf)
2. [https://journals.lww.com/lww-medicalcare/abstract/2005/06000/impact\\_of\\_medication\\_adherence\\_on\\_hospitalization.2.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/lww-medicalcare/abstract/2005/06000/impact_of_medication_adherence_on_hospitalization.2.aspx)
3. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3934668/>  
<https://www.primetherapeutics.com/news/90-days-vs-30-days-supply-it-makes-a-difference-in-adherence/>  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/update/2021/no10\\_2021-08.htm#pharmacy](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2021/no10_2021-08.htm#pharmacy)