



MARYLAND MEDICAID PHARMACY PROGRAM

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ADVISORY

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program (MMPP)** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**. To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations. It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via DHMH, please contact the MMPP representative at 410-767-1455.

Carve-Out of Substance Use Disorder Medications and 72 hour Emergency Supply

Starting January 1, 2015, Maryland Medicaid will carve-out Behavior Health Medications from the HealthChoice managed care benefit and must be billed fee-for-service (BIN 610084: PCN DRMDPROD and Group ID: MDMEDICAID). Claims should be processed fee-for-service, just as claims for other carved-out drugs, such as mental health and HIV/AIDS drugs, are currently billed. The medications listed in the table below are included in the Behavioral Health carve-out.

Behavioral Health Medications	
acamprosate (Campral®)	naloxone injections (Narcan®)(Evzio®)
buprenorphine (Subutex®)	naltrexone tablets (Revia®)
buprenorphine/naloxone combination therapies¹	nicotine patches, gums, lozenges
Chantix®	Nicotrol® nasal spray, inhaler
disulfiram (Antabuse®)	Vivitrol®

¹ Please note that currently MCOs do cover the tablet form. Fee-for-service will only cover the film without a PDL PA

Some of the behavioral health medications are listed on our preferred drug list (PDL) as preferred. In most instances, preferred drugs do not require preauthorization (PA). If a patient is currently prescribed a non-preferred agent, the pharmacy will need the prescriber to write or call in a new prescription to switch the patient to the preferred drug.

Most of these medications do have quantity limits, please visit (<https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/docs/QL%20.pdf>) for complete list.

The prescriber may obtain a PA for the non-preferred medication or quantity limit by calling [800-932-3918](tel:800-932-3918) or submitting a completed PA form via fax to [866-440-9345](tel:866-440-9345)

All Maryland Medical Assistance fee-for-service recipients are entitled to receive a **72-hour emergency supply** of medicine while awaiting prior authorization. When a denial message is received on a submitted claim, the pharmacy should contact the prescriber to either change the medication, or have the prescriber obtain the necessary PA. It would be beneficial for the pharmacist to advise the prescriber of alternative drug(s) that do not require a PA. Normally the prescriber can obtain a PA with a phone call to 1-800-932-3918.

When the prescriber is not available to obtain a PA, and the pharmacist in their professional judgment determined that the prescription is needed on an emergency basis, they should contact the Xerox call center at 1-800-932-3918 and request authorization to dispense a 72-hour emergency supply. In some cases, it may be necessary to dispense the entire prescription as an emergency supply due to the way the drug is packaged or administered.

The pharmacist should use professional judgment in determining whether an emergency supply is needed. Please take into account the patient's diagnostic and drug history, information about what medications the patient has on hand, and possible recent hospitalization, as well as any mobility, transportation or communication issues that make returning to the pharmacy difficult or expensive.

Please note that you may access MMPP's Preferred Drug List at the following website:

<https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/druglist.aspx>

In addition, you may view the clinical criteria for medications at the link below:

<https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/Clinical%20Criteria.aspx>