



**COLORADO**  
Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

3/30/2020

### **Drug Shortages**

The Department has made the following changes:

- Albuterol: Proair, Ventolin and Proventil albuterol HFA are preferred, effective 3/24/2020.
- Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine: require a Prior Authorization, effective 3/24/2020.

Please refer to the PDL and Appendix P documents on the pharmacy resources webpage <https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/pharmacy-resources>.

The Magellan Help Desk has a process in place for shortages or backorders and a pharmacy may call the Magellan Help Desk at 1-800-424-5725 for assistance.

### **Signature Requirements**

Signature requirements are temporarily waived for Member Counseling and Proof of Delivery. Pharmacies are expected to keep records indicating when member counseling was not or could not be provided.

### **Early Refills**

Pharmacies are able to override Early Refills at the point-of-sale (POS) after 50% of medication day supply has lapsed since last fill for reasons related to COVID-19. Use DUE response code with reason for service code 'ER' at the POS to receive a paid claim. This override is not available for use by mail order pharmacies.

If a member requires a refill before 50% of the day supply has lapsed, a POS override is not available. Please contact the Magellan Help Desk at 1-800-424-5725 for a one-time refill authorization.

### **Prescription Cough and Cold**

- Prescription Cough and Cold products for all ages will not require a Prior Authorization for Fee-For-Service members, effective 3/25/2020.

- Prescription cough and cold products may be approved with a prior authorization for an acute condition for Dual Eligible (Medicare-Medicaid) members.

Prescription cough and cold products include non-controlled products and Guaifenesin/Codeine (i.e. Cheratussin AC, Virtussin AC).

### **Reminders for CURRENT Policies related to prescriptions**

Per State law (CCR 3.00.23) pharmacists may dispense one refill for non-controlled maintenance medications if unable to get a timely refill authorization from a prescriber and Medicaid can cover this fill. Pharmacies must follow all documentation requirements set forth by the State of Colorado Board of Pharmacy.

### **Maintenance Medications**

Maintenance medications are medications taken on a regular basis for chronic (long-term) conditions. Maintenance medications can be dispensed up to a 100 day supply and covered by Medicaid. The maximum day supply for non-maintenance medications is 30 days.

### **Communications**

Please see the Department's web page for previous communication related to COVID-19 and to stay in touch with ongoing changes. <https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/covid>