



## Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Programs Update

On February 15, 2018, the New York State Medicaid Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board recommended changes to the Medicaid pharmacy prior authorization programs. **Effective April 19, 2018**, the fee-for-service pharmacy program will implement the following parameters:

### Second Generation Antipsychotics

- Duration Limit: Prescriber involvement required for utilization of 3 or more different oral second-generation antipsychotics for greater than 180 days
- Informational intervention letter will be sent to prescribers with a history of prescribing 3 or more different oral second-generation antipsychotics for greater than 90 days

### Zolpidem IR Duration Limit

- No more than a 30-day supply with a maximum of 5 refills (180 days)

### Codeine- and Tramadol-Containing Products

- Prescriber involvement required for all codeine and tramadol containing products for members younger than 12 years of age
- Educational letter through retrospective drug utilization will be sent to prescribers highlighting the updates to prescribing information for codeine- and tramadol-containing products

### Initiation of Methadone Therapy

- Confirm diagnosis for chronic non-cancer pain
- Prescriber involvement required if absence of covered diagnosis in the patient's claim history
- Step-Therapy: Trial with a long-acting opioid prior to the initiation of methadone therapy for the management of chronic non-cancer pain

For more detailed information on the DUR Board, please refer:

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/dur/index.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/dur/index.htm)

Below is a link to the most up-to-date information on the Medicaid FFS Pharmacy Prior Authorization (PA) Programs. This document contains a full listing of drugs subject to the Medicaid FFS Pharmacy Programs:

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

To obtain a PA, please contact the clinical call center at 1-877-309-9493. The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with pharmacy technicians and pharmacists who will work with you, or your agent, to quickly obtain a PA.

Medicaid enrolled prescribers can also initiate PA requests using a web-based application. PAXpress® is a web based pharmacy PA request/response application accessible through a new button “PAXpress” located on eMedNY.org under the MEIPASS button.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

<http://www.nyhealth.gov> or <http://newyork.fhsc.com> or <http://www.eMedNY.org>