



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 15, 2021

Dear Prescriber:

Beginning on May 1, 2021, the pharmacy benefit for New York Medicaid Managed Care members will be transitioned to the Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) Pharmacy Program. This change applies to all mainstream Managed Care Plans (MCPs), including Health and Recovery Plans (HARPS) and HIV Special Needs Plans (HIV SNPS). For more information about the Pharmacy Carve-out please visit:

https://health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy_carve_out/.

With this change, Medicaid Managed Care members will be subject to the NYS Medicaid Preferred Drug Program (PDP) program. The NYS Medicaid PDP promotes the use of less expensive, equally effective prescription drugs when medically appropriate. Under the PDP all drugs currently available to Medicaid members remain available. No action is required by you when prescribing preferred drugs unless otherwise indicated on the **Preferred Drug List found here:**

https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_PDP_PDL.pdf.

Non-preferred drugs require prior authorization (PA). For more information on the PDP please visit:

https://newyork.fhsc.com/providers/pdp_about.asp

Our records indicate that you are currently prescribing a high volume of drugs that are non-preferred on the Preferred Drug List. Please review our Preferred Drug List, discuss it with your patient, and consider prescribing a preferred drug, if medically appropriate.

To obtain a PA, providers may contact the Magellan clinical call center. The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week and is staffed with pharmacy technicians and pharmacists available to assist providers in quickly obtaining a PA. Medicaid-enrolled prescriber can also initiate PA requests using a web-based application. PAXpress® is a web-based pharmacy PA request/response application located on

<https://www.emedny.org/>.

If you have questions about the Medicaid PDP, clinical criteria or how to obtain a PA, please contact Magellan at 1-877-309-9493. For other questions about the Medicaid Pharmacy program please contact Medicaid Pharmacy Policy at 518-486-3209 or email ppno@health.ny.gov.

Thank you for your continued support and assistance in providing a smooth transition for NYS Medicaid members.

Sincerely,

Medicaid Pharmacy Program