

Rule No. 560-X-16-.20. Quantity Limitations.

(1) Prescriptions should be written to provide a sufficient amount of medication necessary for the duration of the illness or an amount sufficient to cover the interval between physician's visits. A 34-day supply shall not be split into small units and submitted as separate claims.

(2) The quantity for which a prescription is written should not exceed a maximum of eleven refills for non controlled prescriptions or five refills for Control III-V prescriptions. Claims for prescription refills beyond eleven refills for non controlled prescriptions or five refills for Control III-V prescriptions shall be denied.

(3) Quantities (units) of drugs prescribed by a physician shall not be arbitrarily changed by a pharmacist except by authorization of the physician.

(a) The pharmacist must contact the prescribing physician for authorization to reduce the quantity of any Medicaid prescription.

(b) Authorization to reduce the units of a prescription must be noted on the prescription form by the pharmacist.

(4) If the full quantity prescribed is not available at the time of dispensing, the pharmacist may dispense the quantity available. In this case the pharmacist is required to note on the prescription the number of units dispensed and retain the claim until the balance of medication is dispensed. The claim is then submitted with one dispensing fee. If more than one dispensing fee is received, recouplements may be initiated if the dispensing pharmacy cannot provide documentation to support why multiple dispensing fees were received within the same month.

(5) Medicaid patients regulated on long-term or maintenance drugs which require a systematic and routine dosage of thirty to thirty-four days or more should receive their drugs in quantities greater than the thirty to thirty-four-day supply.

(6) Maintenance medications are those generally used to treat chronic conditions or illnesses and are ordered/prescribed and taken regularly and continuously. Medicaid recipients can obtain a 90-day supply of maintenance medications as designated by the Agency. The patient must first have demonstrated stability for at least 60 days (same strength and dose) on a given maintenance medication. Only one co-pay is collected and only one dispensing fee is paid for the 90-day supply. A list of maintenance medications is available on the Medicaid website.

(7) Effective January 1, 2008, the number of outpatient pharmacy prescriptions for all recipients except as specified below is limited to five brand name drugs per month per recipient. In no case can total brand name prescriptions exceed ten per month per recipient. There is no limit on generic and covered over-the-counter prescriptions. Prescriptions for Medicaid eligible recipients under age 21 in the Child Health Services/Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)

Program and prescriptions for Medicaid eligible nursing facility residents are excluded from these limitations.

(a) Brand name anti-psychotic and anti-retroviral agents may be paid up to ten prescriptions per month but in no case can total brand name prescriptions exceed ten per month per recipient.

(b) Effective November 22, 2004, coverage of up to ten brand name prescriptions per month may be allowed through overrides for drugs classified by American Hospital Formulary Services (AHFS) or First DataBank (FDB) Therapeutic Class as Antineoplastic Agents, Antiarrhythmic Agents, Cardiotonic Agents, Miscellaneous Vasodilating Agents, Miscellaneous Cardiac Agents, Nitrates and Nitrites, Alpha Adrenergic Blocking Agents, Beta Adrenergic Blocking Agents, Dihydropyridines, Miscellaneous Calcium Channel Blocking Agents, Diuretics, Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors, Angiotensin II Receptor Antagonists, Mineralocorticoid (Aldosterone) Receptor Antagonists, Central Alpha Agonists, Direct Vasodilators, Peripheral Adrenergic Inhibitors, Miscellaneous Hypotensive Agents, Hemostatics, Calcium Replacements, Electrolyte Depletors, Immunosuppressives, Alpha Glucosidase Inhibitors, Amylinomimetics, Biguanides, Dipeptidyl Peptidase-4 Inhibitors, Incretin Mimetics, Insulins, Meglitinides, Sulfonylureas, Thiazolidinediones, and Miscellaneous Diabetic Agents. Overrides will be granted only in cases in which the prescribing physician documents medical necessity for the recipient to be switched from a product in one of the above named classes to a brand name product within the same therapeutic class in the same calendar month. The first product must have been covered by Medicaid.

Author: Bakeba R. Thomas, Associate Director, Pharmacy Clinical Support.

Statutory Authority: State Plan, Attachment 3.1-A; Title XIX, Social Security Act; 42 CFR Section 401, et seq.

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