



## 5-DAY SUPPLY LIMIT OF PRESCRIPTION OPIOID MEDICATIONS

### 1. Members under the age of 18:

- a. Except as otherwise specified in Section (1)(b), *Conditions and Care Exclusion from the 5-day Supply Limitation* of this Policy, a prescriber shall limit the **initial and refill** prescriptions for any short-acting opioid medication for a member under 18 years of age to no more than a 5-day supply

An **initial** prescription for a short-acting opioid medication is one in which the member has not previously filled any prescription for a short-acting opioid medication within 60 days of the date of the pharmacy filling the current prescription as evidenced by the member's Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) prescription profile

- b. Conditions and Care Exclusion from the 5-day Supply Limitation

- I. The **initial and refill** prescription 5-day supply limitation for short-acting opioid medications *does not* apply to prescriptions for the following conditions and care instances:

- i. Active oncology diagnosis
- ii. Hospice Care
- iii. End of life care (other than hospice)
- iv. Palliative Care
- v. Children on opioid wean at time of hospital discharge
- vi. Skilled nursing facility care
- vii. Traumatic injury (excluding post-surgical procedures)
- viii. Chronic Conditions for which the provider has received PA approval through the contractor

- II. The **initial prescription** 5-day supply limitation for short-acting opioid medications does not apply to prescriptions for post-surgical procedures. However, initial prescriptions for short-acting opioid medications for post-surgical procedures are limited to a supply of no more than 14 days. Refill prescriptions for short-acting opioid medications for post-surgical procedures are limited to no more than a 5-day supply

### 2. Members 18 years of age and older:

- a. Except as otherwise specified in Section (2)(b), *Conditions and Care Exclusion from the 5-day Supply Limitation* of this Policy, a prescriber shall limit the **initial** prescription for any short-acting opioid medication for a member 18 years of age and older to no more than a 5-day supply.

An **initial** prescription for a short-acting opioid medication is one in which the member has not previously filled any prescription for a short-acting opioid medication within 60 days of the date of the pharmacy filling the current prescription as evidenced by the member's Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) prescription profile



b. Conditions and Care Exclusion from the 5-day Initial Supply Limitation

The **initial** prescription 5-day supply limitation for short-acting opioid medications *does not* apply to prescriptions for the following conditions and care instances:

- i. Active oncology diagnosis
- ii. Hospice Care
- iii. End of life care (other than hospice)
- iv. Palliative Care
- v. Skilled nursing facility care
- vi. Traumatic injury (excluding post-surgical procedures)
- vii. Post-Surgical Procedures. Initial prescriptions for short acting opioid medications for post-surgical procedures are limited to a supply of no more than 14 days

#### EXCLUSIONS SPECIFICATIONS

I. Active oncology diagnosis

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for G89.3 *Neoplasm related pain*. This process may be completed by writing the ICD-10CM code on the hard copy prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) Pharmacy point of sale (POS)

The pharmacy staff must enter the diagnostic code in the prescription claim's NCPDP fields as notated below:

NCPDP Field 492-WE, Enter 02 to notate an ICD-10 CM code.

NCPDP Field 424-DO, Enter G89.3.

II. Hospice care

- 1) Members enrolled in Hospice Care are exempt from this policy. Prescriptions for these members may be obtained from the Hospice Provider's designated pharmacy and they are not billed through the point-of-sale to the AHCCCS Fee-for-Service or Managed Care Contractors' PBMs.

2) Prescriber Requirements

The Prescriber must notify a non-hospice pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for hospice care. This process may be completed by writing "hospice care" on the hard copy prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

3) Pharmacy POS

For non-hospice pharmacies, the pharmacy shall obtain an override for the short-acting opioid prescription through the pharmacy benefit manager's (PBM) helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "hospice care".

III. End-of-life care (other than hospice)

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "end-of-life care". This process may be completed by writing "end-of-life care" on the hard copy prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) Pharmacy POS

Hospice pharmacies are excluded from the 5-day supply limit of prescription opioid medications.

For non-hospice pharmacies, the pharmacy shall obtain an override for the short-acting opioid prescription through the PBM's helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "end-of-life care".

IV. Palliative care

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify a non-Hospice pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for palliative care. This process may be completed by writing "palliative care" on the hard copy prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) Pharmacy POS

Hospice pharmacies are excluded from the 5-day supply limit of prescription opioid medications.

For non-hospice pharmacies, the pharmacy shall obtain an override for the short-acting opioid prescription through the PBM's helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "palliative care".

V. Children on opioid wean at time of hospital discharge

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for a child on opioid wean at the time of hospital discharge. This process may be completed by writing the "child on opioid wean at the time of hospital discharge" on the hard copy prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.



2) Pharmacy POS

The pharmacy shall obtain override for the short-acting opioid prescription through the PBM's helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "child on opioid wean at time of hospital discharge."

VI. Skilled Nursing Facility care (SNF)

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid is for SNF care. This process may be completed by writing "SNF care" on the hard copy of the prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) Pharmacy POS

The pharmacy shall obtain an override for the short-acting opioid prescription through the PBM's helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "SNF care".

VII. Traumatic injury, excluding post-surgical procedures

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify the pharmacy that the prescription for the short-acting opioid is for the applicable ICD-10 CM trauma code from Exhibit 310-v-3. This process may be completed by writing the applicable ICD-10 CM trauma code on the hard copy of the prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) Pharmacy (POS)

The pharmacy staff must enter the diagnostic code in the prescription claim's NCPDP fields as notated

below:

NCPDP Field 492-WE, Enter 02 to notate an ICD-10 CM code

NCPDP Field 424-DO, Enter the ICD-10 CM Trauma Code provided by prescriber.

VIII. Post-surgical procedures

1) Prescriber

The Prescriber must notify pharmacy that the prescription for the short-acting opioid for 14 days is for post-surgical care. This process may be completed by writing "post-surgical care" on the hard copy of the prescription or communicating it telephonically, electronically or via fax to the pharmacy.

2) The pharmacy POS



The pharmacy shall obtain an override for the short-acting opioid prescription for 14 days through the PBM's helpdesk when the prescriber notifies the pharmacy that the short-acting opioid prescription is for "post-surgical care".

References:

1. AHCCS Medical Policy Manual: AMPM 310-V Policy  
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Downloads/PharmacyUpdates/AMPM310V.pdf>
2. AHCCCS Exhibit 310-V-2 5-Day Supply Limit of Prescription Opioid Medications Exclusions Specification  
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Downloads/PharmacyUpdates/310VExhibit310-V-2.pdf>
3. AHCCCS Exhibit 310-V-3, IDC-10-CM Diagnosis Code Description  
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/Downloads/PharmacyUpdates/310VExhibit310-V-3.pdf>