



Newsletter

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TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services - **For Action**
Physicians, Certified Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists,
Independent Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and
Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: **Additions/Changes to PDUR Standards per the New Jersey State
Drug Utilization Review Board Meeting in January 2003**

EFFECTIVE: Claims with service dates on or after April 1, 2003

PURPOSE: To notify providers of pharmaceutical services of additions/changes to the State's Prospective Drug Utilization Review (PDUR) program recommended by the New Jersey Drug Utilization Review Board (NJDURB) and approved by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) and the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS).

BACKGROUND: The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) and the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), through the State's point-of-sale (POS) claims processing system, implemented a PDUR program designed to ensure the cost-effective delivery of quality pharmaceutical services. Currently, the program monitors duplicate therapy, early refill claim payments, utilization of certain drugs based on State policy, sex and age categories, therapeutic duplication, maximum daily dosage, drug-drug interactions, and duration of drug use. This program is also designed to provide pharmacists with important information to assist them with their patient consultation responsibilities.

Please see the Medicaid/DHSS Newsletter Volume 9, No. 67, dated November 1999, for additional information concerning this program and the Medical Exception Process (MEP).

ACTION: For Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare fee-for-service (FFS) pharmacy claims, Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD), AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP) and Cystic Fibrosis (CF) pharmacy claims with service dates on or after April 1, 2003, the following additions/changes to the State's PDUR standards shall apply:

(1) **Maximum Daily Dosage Standards (Error Code 535):**

Additional maximum daily dosage standards were approved for State beneficiaries over 18 years of age. These additional standards are described in the following table.

Drug Name	Maximum Daily Dosage (drug units per day)
Ezetimibe 10mg	1.00
Aripiprazole 10mg	3.00
Aripiprazole 15mg	2.00
Aripiprazole 20mg	1.50
Aripiprazole 30mg	1.00
Buprenorphine powder	0*
Buprenorphine 0.3mg/cc	0
Buprenorphine/Naloxone 2mg	0
Buprenorphine/Naloxone 8mg	0
Tazarotene 0.1%	0
Modafinil 100mg	0
Modafinil 200mg	0
Carisoprodol 350mg	4

***Note: A maximum daily dosage standard of '0' means all claims for this drug require immediate prior authorization.**

(2) **Severe Drug-Drug Interaction Standards (Error Code 869/916):**

Additional severe drug-drug interaction standards were approved by the State. These additional standards are described in the following table:

Drug Name	Conflicting Drug Name
Foradil Inhaler	Serevent
Foradil Inhaler	Advair
Avandamet 1/500	Avandia
Avandamet 2/500	Avandia
Avandamet 4/500	Avandia
Glucovance 1.25/250	Glyburide
Glucovance 2.5/500	Glyburide
Glucovance 5/500	Glyburide
Metaglip 2.5/250	Glipizide
Metaglip 5/500	Glipizide
Combivent	Atrovent
Benicar 5mg	ACE I Inhibitors

(3) Therapeutic Duplication Standards (Error Code 405):

An additional specific therapeutic drug class has been added to standards for therapeutic duplication. This additional class is selected serotonin re-uptake inhibitors or SSRIs (for example, Paxil, Zoloft).

(4) Gender Limitations:

Zelnorm is a new drug used in the treatment of constipation from Irritable Bowel Syndrome in women. Due to its limited use in women, claim payments for Zelnorm shall be limited to female beneficiaries.

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter, please contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, DMAHS, at (609) 588-2724, or First Health Services Customer Service at (877) 266-3589.

If you have any questions concerning the PAAD, ADDP, or CF programs, please contact the PAAD Pharmacy Consultant at (609) 631-4887, or First Health Services.

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