



February 20, 2024

**RE: Pharmacy Benefit Changes for Gender Transition Related Hormone Therapy in Minors**

Consistent with Tit. 63 Okla. Stat. 2023, §2607.1 (B.) which states “A health care provider shall not knowingly provide gender transition procedures to any child,” the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is sending notice to providers and members regarding a change in OHCA’s processes, specifically those processes relating to benefits paid for gender transition treatment.

To be in compliance with this change in state law, hormone therapy prescription coverage for members younger than eighteen (18) years of age has been updated. Members currently utilizing hormone therapy for gender transition will be allowed to continue therapy for 6 months (starting October 5, 2023) to facilitate a medication taper. Medications should be discontinued prior to April 5, 2024. At that time, hormone therapy prescriptions used for gender transition diagnoses for members younger than 18 years of age will be denied. If hormone therapy is being used for other condition(s), a prior authorization (PA) request may be required, and the submitted request will be evaluated for clinical appropriateness. Pharmacy PA forms can be found on the OHCA website at <https://oklahoma.gov/ohca/rxforms>. All other requirements, such as those regarding medical necessity under 317:30-3-1 (f), for services provided within the scope of the Oklahoma Medicaid program shall remain.

Members who may be affected by this change in policy have been sent a letter notifying them and advising them to contact their provider for further evaluation and diagnosis confirmation.

These changes to OHCA’s procedure will take effect immediately and are done consistent with the laws of the state of Oklahoma.

Thank you for the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare!

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