

Pharmacy Services

(800) 522-0114, option 4

Opioid Analgesic Quantity Limits – **Short Acting** Opioid Analgesics *“No More than 4”*

January 5, 2015

Dear Pharmacist,

While opioid pain relievers play an important role in pain management, their abuse and misuse has become a growing public health issue in Oklahoma and nation-wide.

The week of **January 19, 2015**, Phase 3 of the quantity limit edit will be implemented for SoonerCare pharmacy claims. As a reminder, Phase 1 of the quantity limit edit was implemented in November 2014 and Phase 2 in December 2014. The purpose of this clinical decision support rule is to assist in the prevention of SoonerCare members’ abuse, misuse, and diversion of opioid products.

| Date of Quantity Limit Implementation | Medications Affected |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Phase 1 - November 2014 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydromorphone Immediate Release Products • Morphine Immediate Release Products • Codeine and Codeine Combination Products • Oxymorphone Immediate Release Products |
| Phase 2 - December 2014 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxycodone Immediate Release Products • Oxycodone Combination Products |
| Phase 3 -January 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrocodone Combination Products • Butalbital Combination Products |

Acute Therapy - Quantity Limits will apply to opioid therapies lasting **10 days or less**. This edit will be triggered when the claim submitted is less than or equal to 10 day supply and a quantity is greater than 8 per day. The denial message received by pharmacies will be NCPDP error code AG “Days’ Supply Limitation For Product/Service; Therapy <= 10 days limited to 8/day”

Chronic Therapy -Quantity Limits will apply to opioid therapies **greater than 10 day** supply. This edit will be triggered when the claim submitted is greater than 10 day supply and the quantity is greater than 4 per day. The denial message received by pharmacies will be NCPDP error code AG “Days’ Supply Limitation For Product/Service; Therapy >10 days limited to 4/day.

Both the State Board of Pharmacy and the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control agree that a prescription written for a greater quantity could be split – filling the maximum under SoonerCare (120) and the remainder for cash – as long as CII products are completed in one transaction on the same day. OHCA recommends submitting the claims as 120 units per 30 days in order to avoid the need for prior authorization or an override. The remaining quantity should be dealt with according to the pharmacy's policy and procedures

This advance notice is to provide you the opportunity to contact -prescribers, counsel, and review patients’ prescriptions. Thank you for the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare!