



Pharmacy Department

UPDATES

May 2021

Medi-Cal Rx-Pharmacy Carve-Out to FFS

A new go-live date for Medi-Cal Rx (pharmacy carve-out to FFS) remains undetermined. Medi-Cal delayed the planned Go Live date of April 1, 2021, for Medi-Cal Rx because of the need to review conflict of interest issues with Magellan Medicaid Administration Inc. and its acquisition by Centene Corporation. Until Medi-Cal Rx's full implementation, Medi-Cal will continue to work with Magellan to provide various Medi-Cal Rx transitional support services including a Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center and roll out of Medi-Cal Rxx website and secure portal functionalities and tools.

Prescription vial locking caps and lock box

Partnership HealthPlan of Ca. (PHC) will be adding prescription vial locking caps and lock box as a new pharmacy benefit in June 2021. Locking caps fits over most standard vial cap sizes and secure the prescription vial with a 4-digit combination lock. PHC will be working with MedImpact to provide POS messaging that will prompt the pharmacist to provide a locking cap whenever a CII prescription is filled. The locking cap or lock box is processed as a regular prescription and dispensed along with the CII prescription to the patient. Since the devices are not drug items, the pharmacists can issue the prescription similar to a flu shot. PHC members are allowed 5 locking caps and 1 lock box in a 12 month period. Locking caps and lock box is part of the comprehensive approach to prevent misuse of prescription medication in the home, as well as preventing small children from accidental access to prescription drugs. PHC will be providing more detailed information on how pharmacies can provide these safety devices to patients.

Medi-Cal Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Educational Articles:

The purpose of this educational intervention component of DUR is to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of prescribing and dispensing practices for Medi-Cal recipients. Educational interventions include ongoing dissemination of information through the Medi-Cal provider bulletin process about clinically important, drug-specific therapy problems.

You can use the links below to view the Medi-Cal DUR education bulletin and previous education articles.

<https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/dur/edarticles.aspx>

[April 2021 article: Drug Safety communication: Potential Increased Arrhythmia Risk from Lamotrigine](#)

Previous Education Articles:

March 2021

Clinical Review: Recommendation for the Tapering of Benzodiazepines

January 2021

Clinical Review: Recommendation for the Management of Acute Dental Pain

Important Links:

PHC Formulary Search Tool: <https://client.formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteTestID=1196>

Contact Information:

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