



Opioid Overutilization Prevention and Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Programs for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Maryland

Quick Reference Guide

In response to the U.S. opioid epidemic, we've developed programs to help our members receive the care and treatment they need in safe and effective ways. We've based our measures on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) opioid treatment guidelines to help prevent overuse of short-acting and long-acting opioid medications. Please use this quick reference guide to learn more about what we offer.

Concurrent Drug Utilization Review (cDUR) Programs

The cDUR program uses the pharmacy claims processing system to screen all prescriptions at the point-of-service and checks for possible inappropriate drug prescribing and utilization, as well as potentially dangerous medical implications or drug interactions. The program includes communication to the dispensing pharmacy at point-of-service through claims edits and messaging to the dispensing pharmacy at point-of-service. The pharmacist will need to address the clinical situation at the point-of-sale before entering appropriate National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) codes to receive an approved claim, unless otherwise stated below.

THERDOSE Acetaminophen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Combination opioids plus acetaminophen (APAP) limit● Prevents doses of APAP greater than 4 grams per day
Duplicate Therapy – Short-Acting Opioids (SAOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alerts to concurrent use of multiple SAOs
Duplicate Therapy – Long-Acting Opioids (LAOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alerts to concurrent use of multiple LAOs
Drug-Drug Interaction – Opioids and Carisoprodol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Point-of-sale alert for concurrent use of opioids and carisoprodol
Drug-Inferred Health State – Opioids and Prenatal Vitamins and Medications used in Pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Enhanced point-of-sale alert for concurrent use of opioids and prenatal vitamins and concurrent use of opioids and medications used in pregnancy (e.g., doxylamine/pyridoxine)● This custom message does not require the pharmacist to enter appropriate NCPDP codes to receive an approved claim

Retrospective Drug Utilization Review (rDUR) Programs

The rDUR program analyzes claims on a monthly basis and sends communications to prescribers.

Narcotic DUR Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monthly identification of members who are getting multiple opioid prescriptions from multiple prescribers and/or filling at multiple pharmacies● Also identifies members with chronic early refill attempts, overlapping LAOs, high daily doses of opioids and large quantities of units being filled● Patient-specific information sent to all prescribers with medication fill history for the last 3 months
Pharmacy Lock-In Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pharmacy lock-in programs vary by state; however, all include filling of opioids by multiple prescribers at multiple pharmacies as an inclusion criteria for the program.● Members chosen for the program will be locked into one pharmacy for all of their medications for a period of 2 year. Lock-in periods vary by state.

Utilization Management (UM) Programs

UM programs promote appropriate use, help reduce costs and ultimately help to improve health status of members.

Cumulative 90 Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) Limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Point-of-sale dosage limit for all opioid products up to 90 MME● Prevents cumulative opioid doses above the preset threshold from processing● Prior authorization required for doses above the preset threshold
LAO – Prior Authorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prior authorization requires:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Attestation of appropriate use and monitoring● Step through short-acting opioid (non-cancer pain); step through preferred LAOs● If appropriate, step through neuropathic pain alternatives (non-cancer pain)

New to Therapy SAO Edit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point-of-sale limits for members who are opioid naïve (no opioid claims in the last 60 days) ● Point-of-sale limits include maximum of a 7-day supply for ages 20 and older ● Point-of-sale limits include maximum of a 3-day supply for ages under 20 ● Prior authorization required to exceed these quantities for opioid-naïve members.
Cough and Cold Products Containing Opioid Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limited to a quantity per fill of 120 mL (units) as well as a 30-day maximum quantity of 360 mL (units) ● Prior authorization is required for members under age 18 prior to filling a cough and cold product containing opioid components
Transmucosal Fentanyl Product Prior Authorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prior authorization requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation of pain due to cancer and patient is already receiving opioids
Overdose Prevention (naloxone)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No prior authorization is required for preferred naloxone products (Generic naloxone injection, Narcan® Nasal Spray)
Evidence-Based Prescribing Programs	
Focuses on outreach to prescribers identified as outliers	
Fraud/Waste/Abuse Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Retrospective controlled substance claims analysis ● Identifies outlier opioid prescribers
Peer Comparison Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identification of, and outreach to, outlier opioid prescribers compared to peers within like specialties
Miscellaneous	
Substance Use Disorder Helpline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/7 helpline: 855-780-5955. For members or caregivers, staffed by licensed behavioral health providers ● Reference: liveandworkwell.com
Miscellaneous – Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) License Edit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Verifies DEA is active and matches scheduled medication in the claim
Miscellaneous – Refill-Too-Soon Threshold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increases the refill-too-soon threshold to 90% on opioids and other controlled substances CII-V
Abbreviations	
APAP Acetaminophen	MME Morphine Milligram Equivalent
CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	PA Prior Authorization
cDUR Concurrent Drug Utilization Review	rDUR Retrospective Drug Utilization Review
DEA Drug Enforcement Agency	SAOs Short-Acting Opioids
LAOs Long-Acting Opioids	UM Utilization Management

We're Here to Help

For more information, please call Provider Services at 888-362-3368.

How to Submit Prior Authorizations

- **Online:** Use the Prior Authorization and Notification tool in Link. For more information, go to UHCprovider.com/paan.
- **Phone:** Call 800-310-6826
- **Fax:** Fax your completed form to 866-940-7328
- Pharmacy Prior Authorization forms are available at UHCprovider.com > Menu > Health Plans by State – choose your state > Medicaid (Community Plan) > Pharmacy Resources and Physician Administered Drugs > **Pharmacy Prior Authorization**