

PHARMACY REMINDER: New Edits May 15, 2009

In accordance with the Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board's recommendations, anxiolytic medications, and sedative- hypnotic medication accumulation limits will be implemented beginning on 5-15-09. For additional information, refer to the Agency's Provider Bulletin, April 09 issue.

1. **Anxiolytic (anti-anxiety) Agents-** This limit is concerning the benzodiazepines drug class; drugs affected by this edit are Ativan/lorazepam, Valium/ diazepam, Xanax/alprazolam, Tranxene/clorazepate, and Serax/oxazepam.
 - Quantity limit of up to a total of 62 cap/tabs a month; various agents allowed which means a combination of drugs could be allowed for the 62 unit total; Pharmacy Claim Exception Code= **4475**, NCPDP Reject Code - 76- Plan Limitations Exceeded; **Pharmacy Short Message-Mtly Anxiolytic Tab Lmt Excd, Long Message-Anxiolytic Agents Are Limited to 62 Total Cumulative Units of All/Any Strengths Per Month.**
2. **Sedative/Hypnotics** (examples are Ambien/zolpidem, Dalmane/ flurazepam Lunesta, Sonata, Restoril/ temazepam, and Rozerem)
 - Quantity limit of up to 31 cap/tabs of sedative/hypnotics a month; **Claim Exception Code = 4474**, NCPDP Reject Code - 76- Plan Limitations Exceeded; **Short Message-Mtly Sed/Hypnotic Lmt Excd, Long Message-Sedative-Hypnotic Agents Are Limited to 31 Cumulative Units Of All/Any Strengths Per Month**

Additionally, it has come to our attention that some beneficiaries were receiving the maximum monthly quantities in multiple short acting oxycodone medications. This has been rectified systematically; these medication accumulation limits will be implemented beginning on 5-15-09 also.

3. **Oxycodone short-acting oral tabs/caps:** This limit is concerning short acting oxycodone narcotic agents including, but not limited to, Oxy IR, Percocet/Endocet, Roxicodone, Percodan or Tylox.
 - Quantity limit of up to 62 units of short acting oxycodone containing agents monthly; Pharmacy **Claim Exception Code= 4472**, NCPDP Reject Code -76- Plan Limitations Exceeded; **Short Message – Mtly Oxycodone SA Tab Lmt Exc, Long Message – Oxycodone Short Acting Tabs/Caps Limited to 62 Total Cumulative Units of All/Any Strengths Per Month;** Oxycodone liquid and tablet accumulations are separate and independent of each other
4. **Oxycodone Oral Liquid** (example is Roxicet Solution)
 - Quantity limit of up to 180mls of oxycodone liquid monthly; Pharmacy **Claim Exception Code = 4473**, NCPDP Reject Code - 76- Plan Limitations Exceeded; **Short Message-Mtly Oxycodone Liq Lmt Excd, Long Message- Oxycodone Liquid Limited To 180 Total Cumulative Milliliters Of All/Any Strengths Per Month;**
Oxycodone liquid and tablet accumulations are separate and independent of each other

These edits will work this like:

- Starting on 5-15-09, when a new claim for one of the drug classes listed above is submitted thru POS, the system will look back 31 days.
- If a claim is found within that time span, then the date of the original pharmacy claim paid is the date when the accumulation begins.
- If no POS claims are found, then the date of current Rx claim is when the accumulation begins. For example, if a Rx is filled on May 15th and no claims were paid in the past 31 days, then it can be refilled after 85% of the RX has been used or on day 27, which in this situation would be June 11th.

Beneficiaries who require in excess of the units listed above will need prior authorization. For prior authorization issues, contact HID, or Health Information Designs, at 1-800-355-0486.

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