
North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program Quarterly News

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Welcome to the “North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program Quarterly News,” a pharmacy newsletter presented by the North Dakota Department of Human Services and published by Health Information Designs, LLC (HID). This newsletter is published as part of a continuing effort to keep the Medicaid provider community informed of important changes in the North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program.

The North Dakota Department of Human Services has contracted with HID to review and process prior authorizations (PAs) for medications. For a current list of medications requiring a PA, as well as the necessary forms and criteria, visit www.hidesigns.com/ndmedicaid, or call HID at (866) 773-0695 to have this information faxed. An important feature on this website is the NDC Drug Lookup, which allows you to determine if a specific NDC is covered (effective date), reimbursement amount, MAC pricing, copay information, and any limitations (prior authorization or quantity limits).

This newsletter provides information regarding an overview of the resources available on the North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website, updates regarding planned claims processing edits for North Dakota Medicaid, and updates to the Preferred Drug List.

The North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program team appreciates your comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter. To suggest topics for inclusion, please contact HID at (334) 502-3262, call toll free at 1-800-225-6998, or e-mail us at info@hidinc.com.



<u>Helpful Numbers</u>	
PA Help Desk	866-773-0695
To fax PAs	855-207-0250
To report adverse reactions	800-FDA-1088

Inside this issue:	Page
Welcome	1
Helpful Numbers	1
North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website Overview	2
Planned Claims Processing Edits for Narcotics and Benzodiazepines	3
PDL Updates	
Health Information Designs, LLC	4

Visit HID’s North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website, www.hidesigns.com/ndmedicaid.

North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website Overview

In an effort to ensure that providers have easy access to needed information for prior authorization requests, North Dakota Medicaid maintains the North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website, located at <http://www.hidesigns.com/ndmedicaid>. In order to most benefit from this website, we ask that all providers review the following descriptions of each link to an information resource located on the website.

NDC Drug Lookup Tool: This tool allows for drugs to be searched by drug name or NDC for a specific NDC's coverage status, maximum quantity and day supply allowed, the copay cost, whether a PA or other processing requirement is required, and a link to the PA request form for that drug.

PA Forms: This page contains alphabetical list of links to all of the drug/drug class specific forms for medications that require a PA for coverage by North Dakota Medicaid. The NDC Drug Lookup Tool can be used to find the correct form by searching for drug name or NDC.

Preferred Drug List (PDL): This page contains links to all of the versions of the PDL, with the highest version number within the current year being the current PDL. The PDL itself contains all preferred and non-preferred medications on the PDL, as well as category and drug-specific criteria for medications on the PDL. Be advised, the PDL is NOT an all-inclusive list of medications covered by ND Medicaid, and is NOT an all-inclusive list of medications that require prior authorization.

Preferred Diabetic Supplies List: This is a list of the current preferred diabetic testing supplies including blood glucose test strips and blood glucose meters. Also in this document is information needed to obtain free meters.

PA Criteria: This is document a containing all criteria for medications that require prior authorization that are not listed on the PDL. The document has a table of contents linking to the page number of the specific drug/drug class, and the document is searchable. The document also contains links to all other documents that explain limitations that may cause a prior authorization denial or claim rejection.

Therapeutic Duplication Edits: This document is meant to serve as a guide to ND Medicaid's Therapeutic Duplication Edit claims rejections, which are in place to prevent payment for practices outside of the compendia such as using multiple medications within the same pharmacological class.

Drug Utilization Management List: This leads to a document that lists drugs with quantity limits, age edits, and prior authorization (PA) drug utilization management strategies in place listed alphabetically by generic name. The list includes the medication's quantity limits: maximum quantity per day, minimum and maximum quantity per claim, maximum day supply per claim; age edits: minimum and/or maximum age allowed; and prior authorization: If PA is required, date placed on PA, category of PA, and managed by (i.e. which list to locate preferred drug options and coverage criteria). Drugs are listed by brand name, generic name, strength, package size, and dosage form.

Coverage Rules on Medications: This link goes to a document that contains all other (not listed above) rules for coverage of various medications. The document contains the following lists: medications where the brand name is preferred over the generic product; medications that require concurrent therapy with another drug product (including drug claim lookback times); medications that require a diagnosis to be submitted on the prescription; medications with first fill limitations; a list of specific preferred NDCs for select preferred generic agents; and a list of drugs that are only reimbursable through medical billing via 837I and 837P transactions.

Other Information: Also on the North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Website are links to information about past and upcoming North Dakota Drug Utilization Review Board meetings, copies of past quarterly newsletters, previously sent pharmacy e-mail notices, and links to State Medicaid Websites.

Planned Claims Processing Edits for Narcotics and Benzodiazepines

Below is a list of planned upcoming claims processing edits for filling an opioid analgesic and benzodiazepines. North Dakota Medicaid asks that you take the time to review this list, in order to be prepared for when these changes go into effect.

- **When a benzodiazepine is prescribed in combination with a narcotic, the Department will deny the second claim submitted in this combination at the pharmacy.** An override will be given to patients currently on this combination for a period of 6 months to allow for tapering. An online form will be available for recipients for which concurrent therapy is unavoidable beyond the 6 month window.
- **When a long acting narcotic 90 MME/dose or greater is prescribed with a short acting narcotic 15 MME/dose or greater, the Department will deny the second claim submitted in this combination at the pharmacy.** An override will be given to patients currently on this combination for a period of 6 months to allow for tapering of the narcotics.
- **When a narcotic or benzodiazepine is prescribed, an ICD-10 diagnosis must be included on the prescription, the Department will deny a claim submitted without a diagnosis.**

Updates from the Most Recent Preferred Drug List

PDL Category Revisions:

- A new PDL category has been created for antiretroviral integrase strand transfer inhibitors
- The PDL category of "MIGRAINE PROPHYLAXIS - 5HT(1) AGONISTS", was revised to include updates to the PA criteria for the PDL category as well as to the PA criteria for individual non-preferred products.

Added to PA Required:

- Zolmitriptan
- Alocril (nedocromil) Epinastine
- Azasite (azithromycin) drops
- Otiprio (ciprofloxacin)
- Renvela (sevelamer carbonate) tablet
- Adcirca (tadalafil)
- Ventavis (iloprost)
- Humalog U-200 (insulin lispro) Kwikpen

Removed from PA:

- Durezol (difluprednate)
- Nevanac (nepafenac)
- Ciprofloxacin drops
- Fosrenol (lanthanum) 1000 mg chew tablet
- sevelamer tablets
- Airduo Respiclick (fluticasone/salmeterol)

Additionally, North Dakota Medicaid is now able to electronically verify diagnosis information. As a result, 50 medications have been removed from prior authorization. The diagnosis verification program will continue to grow so please include ICD-10 diagnosis information on prescriptions for ease of pharmacy claim processing.

Please visit <http://www.hidesigns.com/ndmedicaid> for information on prior authorization. Helpful links include PA Forms, PA Criteria, and NDC Drug Lookup.



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Health Information Designs, LLC is the most experienced and qualified provider of drug utilization review and pharmacy support services in the country. We specialize in helping our clients promote clinically appropriate and cost-effective prescribing, dispensing, and utilization of prescription drugs.



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