Medi-Cal Rx

Updates to the Medi-Cal Rx Physician Administered Drug Policy

October 30, 2025; Last Updated November 17, 2025

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

As announced in the alert titled *30-Day Countdown: Upcoming Policy Change to Medi-Cal Rx Physician Administered Drugs*, Medi-Cal Rx implemented changes to physician administered drugs (PADs) on October 17, 2025.

In response to feedback from stakeholders, pharmacy providers, and prescribers regarding access concerns for members related to these changes, Medi-Cal Rx has taken steps to ensure members maintain continuing care.

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Do

Effective October 30, 2025, pharmacy providers should resubmit to Medi-Cal Rx any previously denied claim that was initially submitted on or after October 17, 2025, for which there was a prior paid claim within the 450-day lookback period. If the claim continues to be denied, submit a new prior authorization (PA) request or submit the claim to the member's medical benefit for coverage considerations. PAD claims that should instead be submitted as a medical claim to the member's respective managed care plan (MCP) or, when applicable, through the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system will reject with **Reject Code 816 – Pharmacy Drug Benefit Exclusion** with the supplemental message "*Submit claim to medical benefit. This is excluded as a pharmacy benefit unless a PA exception is obtained.*"

» **Timely filing limits will apply when submitting claims retroactively to Medi-Cal Rx. For more detailed information, refer to the *Timely Filing Limitations* section in the *Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual*.**

For new PAD claims that are denied and where the member has no prior documented use, pharmacy providers are encouraged to submit a PA request to support medical necessity with the following information:

- The clinical reasoning for why the drug should be administered outside of a clinic or office setting.
- The rationale for why the medication should be dispensed through a pharmacy.

Full reinstatement of the PAD policy prior to October 17, 2025, should be completed in mid-December.

Contact Information

You can call the Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center (CSC) at 1-800-977-2273, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

For other questions, email Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach at MediCalRxEducationOutreach@primetherapeutics.com.