



Medi-Cal Rx

Coming Soon: Updates to the Early Refill Policy

July 6, 2026

As part of ongoing program integrity efforts, Medi-Cal Rx will implement changes to the early refill policy starting August 21, 2026, for members 21 years of age and older, in efforts to improve program integrity and ensure continued, equitable, and clinically appropriate access to quality pharmacy benefits and services. Claims that do not meet the refill thresholds and/or cumulative days thresholds will deny with **Reject Code 88 – DUR Reject Error** with Drug Use Review (DUR) Reason for Service Code ER – Overutilization and will be subject to override limits.

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

Early refill (ER) claims will deny with Reject Code 88 – DUR Reject Error with Reason for Service Code ER – Overutilization in either of the following situations:

- A member has not exhausted their previous fill for the same drug (name, strength, and formulation) in which the requested refill interval is less than 75 percent, except for opioids which is 90 percent.
- A member has not exhausted their previous fill for the same drug (name, strength, and formulation) in which the requested refill interval exceeds the defined threshold of 20 days within a 180-day period.

These claims may be overridden when one of the following codes is present on the claim:

- Reason for Service Code ER – Overutilization (with the appropriate Professional Service Code and Result of Service Code)
- Submission clarification code (SCC) value of 03 – Vacation Supply
- SCC 04 – Lost Supply

Each respective override may be used only once within a 365-day period. When the override limit is exceeded, claims will reject with **Reject Code 75 – Prior Authorization Required** with the supplemental message *"Early refill overrides exceeded."*

- » Effective August 21, 2026, claims for members 21 years of age and older will be impacted.
- » Claims for members younger than 21 years of age will not be impacted at this time and more information will be provided as available for this demographic's changes.

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.

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