



Submission of Pricing Prior Authorization for Brand Medically Necessary Medications: Dispense as Written 1 (DAW 1)

September 29, 2022

What Pharmacy Providers Need to Know

Medi-Cal Rx wants to ensure that pharmacy providers are aware of how to identify and when to submit a Brand Medically Necessary (BMN) prior authorization (PA) request for brand, multisource drugs for claims submitted with Dispense as Written 1 (DAW 1), substitution not allowed by prescriber.

Currently, pricing considerations are not reviewed for dispensing of a brand, multisource drug when a PA request has been approved via CoverMyMeds® for a drug not impacted by Phase I, Wave III (P1/W3) Reinstatement. Pharmacy providers are required to submit a separate BMN PA for reimbursement considerations at the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) or Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) rate for dispensing of the brand, multisource drug.

Updated Guidance

- If a PA request is submitted by a prescriber via CoverMyMeds stating the request is to be reviewed for a brand drug **not** included in the 11 Standard Therapeutic Classes (STCs) of P1/W3 Reinstatement and the PA is approved in real-time, a pharmacy submitted BMN PA for reimbursement considerations via the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Portal](#), NCPDP P4 transaction, fax, or U.S. Mail is **required**.
- If a PA request is submitted by a prescriber via CoverMyMeds for a brand, multisource drug included in the 11 STCs of P1/W3 Reinstatement and the PA is approved in real-time, a separate pharmacy submitted BMN PA for reimbursement considerations is **not required**.

- If a PA request is submitted via the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Portal](#), NCPDP P4 transaction, fax, or U.S. Mail for any brand, multisource drug, a separate pharmacy submitted BMN PA for reimbursement considerations is **not required**.

Note: Medi-Cal Rx is taking additional steps to improve the BMN PA request process for pharmacy providers and is prioritizing drugs most frequently impacted. Updates will be provided in the coming weeks.

What Pharmacy Providers Need to Do

If the pharmacy receives **Reject Code 75 – Prior Authorization Required** for claims submitted with a DAW 1 for a brand, multisource drug, the following supplemental messaging will be provided:

“Brand Medically Necessary PA required. If Brand is not required, please use available generic.”

To seek reimbursement for a brand, multisource drug, the pharmacy must submit a BMN PA request via one of the following methods:

- [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Portal](#)
- Fax
- NCPDP P4 Transaction
- U.S. Mail

Note: For fax or U.S. Mail submissions, use the preferred [Medi-Cal Rx PA Request Form](#).

To complete the BMN PA request:

- Document the brand name of the drug requested.
- Clearly state that the request is for a “Brand Medically Necessary PA.”
- Clearly indicate “DAW 1” or include a remark that generic substitution is not permissible.
- Provide supporting information to justify that dispensing for the brand name drug is medically necessary.
- Include the drug’s National Drug Code (NDC) (recommended).

Resources

Refer to the following resources for information concerning which drugs are impacted by P1/W3 Reinstatement:

- [Now Active – Reinstatement of Limited Prior Authorization Requirements for 11 Drug Classes](#)
- [Phase I, Wave III List of Drugs Impacted by Prior Authorization Reinstatement](#)

For additional information, refer to the following resources:

- [Prior Authorization Reinstatement Reference Guide](#)
- [Medi-Cal Rx Prior Authorization \(PA\) Job Aid](#)
- The *Prior Authorization Overview, Request Methods, and Adjudication* section in the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#)
- [Dispense as Written \(DAW\), Brand Medically Necessary \(BMN\), and Reimbursement – Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

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@magellanhealth.com.