

Submitting Prior Authorization Requests in Advance of Retirement of the Transition Policy

March 10, 2023

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

As of February 24, 2023, Medi-Cal Rx accepts renewal prior authorizations (PAs) in advance of the retirement of the Transition Policy for medications and/or products for beneficiaries 22 years of age and older (excluding enteral nutrition products). Pharmacy providers and prescribers do not have to wait for each respective Transition Policy lift within Reinstatement Phase III to submit PAs to Medi-Cal Rx for drug/product refills. As a reminder, PA requests are reviewed for medical necessity, and pharmacy providers and prescribers should include all relevant clinical information on the request. The alert titled [Reminder: Establishing Medical Necessity](#) provides guiding information.



- PA requests for beneficiaries 21 years of age and younger are not accepted at this time.
- PA requests for enteral nutrition products for beneficiaries of any age are not accepted at this time.

What Pharmacy Providers Can Do

If a claim pays with the following supplemental message, this claim is eligible for PA submission as of February 24, 2023: "The Medi-Cal Rx transition policy will be retired in a series of transition lifts, starting on 3/24/2023. A Prior Authorization may be required for this benefit/drug. Consider submitting a PA today. For more information, please visit the Medi-Cal Rx website."

Additionally, pharmacy providers can notify the beneficiary and/or prescriber that a PA will be required for this drug/product at a later date.

What Prescribers Can Do

If a beneficiary has been receiving a drug/product that is not on the [Medi-Cal Rx Contract Drugs List or Covered Product Lists](#), prescribers can submit a PA to Medi-Cal Rx for this drug/product in advance of the PA end date and/or retirement of the Transition Policy. Prescribers may also consider switching the beneficiaries' prescription to a medication or product that does not require a PA, if clinically appropriate.



Unless otherwise indicated on the PA request, the PA start date is the date the PA was signed and submitted to Medi-Cal Rx.

Resources

- Refer to the [Medical Supplies: How to Prepare for Retirement of the Transition Policy](#) and [How to Prepare for Retirement of the Transition Policy](#) alerts for more information related to submitting a PA in advance of the retirement of the Transition Policy.
- For more information regarding the retirement of the Transition Policy, refer to the [90-Day Countdown – Phase III: Retirement of the Transition Policy for Beneficiaries 22 Years of Age and Older](#) alert.
- Refer to the [Medi-Cal Rx Contract Drugs & Covered Products Lists](#).
- For more information about Medi-Cal Rx Reinstatement, visit the [Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach](#) page on the [Medi-Cal Rx Web Portal](#) and select **Medi-Cal Rx Reinstatement**.

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.