



Medi-Cal Rx

Removal of Appendix H – List of Physician Administered Drugs with Reject Code 816

May 1, 2024

Background

The purpose of this alert is to inform pharmacy providers and prescribers that Medi-Cal Rx has removed *Appendix H – List of Physician Administered Drugs (PADs) with Reject Code 816* from the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#) effective May 1, 2024.

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

Appendix H of the *Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual* identified examples of physician administered drugs (PADs) excluded from the Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit. The removal of *Appendix H* will **not** impact claims.

- Claims submitted for PADs that are considered a pharmacy benefit to Medi-Cal Rx will adjudicate and deny according to Medi-Cal Rx claim utilization management (UM) edits when applicable.
- Claims submitted for PADs that are considered a medical benefit will continue to deny with **Reject Code 816 – Pharmacy Drug Benefit Exclusion** with the following supplemental message: "*Pharmacy Drug Benefit Exclusion. Exception for pharmacy benefit approval may be considered via PA request. May be covered as a medical benefit.*"

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Do

Pharmacy providers and prescribers should complete the following steps for coverage determination:

1. Review the following resources on the [Medi-Cal Rx Web Portal](#) to determine if the PAD is eligible for coverage as a Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit:
 - [Contract Drugs & Covered Products Lists](#) page
 - [Medi-Cal Rx Pharmacy Reimbursable Physician Administered Drugs](#)
2. Include rationale for why the PAD must be billed as a pharmacy claim to Medi-Cal Rx and cannot be billed as a medical claim to the medical benefit for coverage when submitting a prior authorization (PA) request for a PAD.

- » Review the alert titled [Reminder: Medi-Cal Rx Billing Policy for Physician Administered Drugs](#) for additional information.
- » The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will continue to evaluate PADs eligible for coverage via Medi-Cal Rx and make updates to the *Medi-Cal Rx Pharmacy Reimbursable Physician Administered Drugs* list when applicable.

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.