# New Ambetter Opioid Prescribing Limits: *Effective* 8/16/2018



Maximum
7 day supply at
one time

Maximum two 7 day supply fills in any 28 day period

Maximum 28 day supply in any 90 day period

Prior authorization will be required to prescribe opioids outside of those limitations

# Impacted members:

· Current members who have not previously had a claim for an opioid.

### **Exempt conditions:**

Active cancer treatment, end-of-life/ hospice care palliative care, sickle cell

# Frequently Asked Questions

#### Q. Why are we adding this limit?

**A.** The opioid epidemic has claimed countless lives during last three years. Many states are starting to limit provider's ability to prescribe long term opioid medications. To help our providers better manage opioid overutilization we are instituting this edit. Our members who have legitimate medical need for long term opioid use will be able to obtain a Prior Authorization.

# **Q.** Who is affected by this limit?

**A.** Current and future members that previously have not had an opioid claim.

#### **Q.** Who will be exempt from this limit?

**A.** Current and future members who have a condition that can only be managed by long term opioid use. Such conditions include, but are not limited to cancer and sickle cell.

#### **Q.** Are there any other limits imposed?

A. Yes, the edit will also check for daily morphine equivalent. If the morphine daily equivalent is greater than 120mg the edit will reject the claim and present the dispensing pharmacist option to override.

#### Q. Can the dispensing pharmacist override maximum day limits?

**A.** No, maximum day limits require submission of a Prior Authorization.

#### Q. How does the maximum day limit work?

A. Member will be able to get up to a maximum 7 day supply of opioid medications for initial fill. Second fill will be limited to an additional 7 day supply. Member will be able to obtain up to 2 fills in any 28 day period and up to 28 day supply in any 90 day period. For example, if member fills a 7 day supply on July 1st, member would be able to get another 7 day fill on the 8th. Member then would have to wait 2 weeks to obtain an additional 7 day fill or would require a Prior Authorization override.

# Q. How can member/provider obtain an override?

A. Overrides can be provided by submitting a Prior Authorization request to the Prior Authorization team. Fax: 866-399-0929 or Phone: 866-399-0928.