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I. Pharmacy Services Introduction

A. Mission Statement

The Utah Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program Mission is to develop and manage comprehensive pharmacy benefits and prior authorization services to ensure appropriate quality and utilization for Medicaid members.

B. Purpose

The information in this manual represents available services and policies that are designed to be used in conjunction with federal regulations and sections of the Utah Administrative Code R414-60 Medicaid Policy for Pharmacy Program.

Providers must be familiar with all current [Utah Administrative Code Rules](#) and federal regulations governing the Utah Medicaid FFS Pharmacy Program.

II. Pharmacy General Policy

This manual is updated bi-monthly, and changes are announced through the Medicaid Information Bulletins (MIBs) published on the Medicaid Website. To sign up for the Utah Medicaid Newsletter and receive email notifications of policy changes and MIBs, refer to [Medicaid Information Bulletins](#).

A. Copay Policy

When applicable, Medicaid members are required to pay a co-payment for each prescription filled as described in 42 CFR 447.56(a)(1) and Utah State Plan, Attachment 4.18-C, Page 1 under "Pharmacy Services", with a maximum of five (5) copays per month.

Medicaid members enrolled in a Managed Care Entity (MCE) have some drugs that are covered under Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid. Refer to section IV, Part 5 of this Provider Manual entitled Managed Care Entity Carve-Out.

Managed Care Entity Carve-Out

Pharmacy copays for Medicaid members enrolled in an MCE will be split between FFS Medicaid and the MCE plan:

- For drugs covered by the MCE, the maximum number of copays is three (3) per month.
- For drugs covered by FFS Medicaid, the maximum number of copays is two (2) per month.

Reversal of a previously filled prescription with a co-pay will require a refund of the co-pay to the Medicaid member and will cause the next prescription filled for that Medicaid member to be adjudicated with a co-pay.

Some Medicaid members or medications are exempt from the copayment requirement as described in Utah State Plan, Attachment 4.18-C, Page 3 under sub-bullet K.

Per federal regulation (42 CFR 447.52), a Medicaid provider may not refuse service to a Medicaid member based on their patient's inability to pay their copayment.

For additional information regarding copayment, refer to [R414-60-6](#).

B. Days Supply Policies

1. Coverage of Early Fills of Medication

Effective 11/01/2021, Utah Medicaid has updated the Pharmacy Early Refill Policy to further improve member care. The early refill override request is now evaluated by the Pharmacy Team against medical necessity, as defined in [Utah Medicaid Provider Manual General Information](#), Section 1, 8-1. An override is granted for early refill requests that rejects at the Pharmacy POS for Reject code 79, CC 1088 Refill Too Soon, if it is deemed medically necessary and in accordance with policy.

2. Insulin Pens

In 2019 the FDA requested the new wording "dispense in original sealed carton" on boxes of insulin pens for safety reasons. Therefore, breaking up boxes is no longer recommended.

Effective April 1, 2021, pharmacy point of sale claims for insulin pens may be billed for up to a 140-day supply, with a limit of one box for claims over 30-days, in accordance with the FDA's recommendation. Day supply on submitted claims should reflect the actual days the medication will last and/or expire.

www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-advises-health-care-professionals-andpatients-about-insulin-pen-packaging-and-dispensing

3. Maximum Days Supply

Utah Medicaid will pay for up to a one (1) month supply of a medication per dispensing unless it is listed on the three-month supply list, located on the [Preferred Drug List](#).

Medicaid requires a three-month supply for medications on the three-month supply list following a two-month window for dose titration and stabilization. When a member presents with a new prescription or a refill of a maintenance medication, the point-of-sale system will look back 75 days to identify two (2) consecutive fills of the same medicine at the same dose, indicating a stable maintenance dose has been achieved. If found, the claim will be rejected if billed for less than a three-month supply. Once a three-month supply of a medication has been filled, all subsequent fills of the same medicine at the same dose will fill for three months, assuming sufficient refills of the prescription remain.

For a three-month supply, Utah Medicaid fee for service members who are subject to cost-sharing will pay a single co-pay. Additionally, pharmacies will receive a single dispensing fee on prescriptions filled for a three-month supply.

Pharmacy staff are encouraged to work with prescribers to make any necessary changes to prescriptions to conform to this requirement. For example, when a

pharmacy receives a prescription written for a 30-day supply with refills for a drug on this program, the pharmacy may contact the prescriber and recommend a modification to the original prescription for a three-month supply with refills, as appropriate.

The mandatory three-month policy does not apply to Indian Health Service providers, or Medicaid members receiving long-term services and support in nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, or home and community-based waiver programs based on the members certain categories of aid. While not mandatory, three-month supply fills will remain optional for these groups.

If an exception to the Mandatory Three-Month Supply fill is needed for a patient not otherwise excluded from the requirement, a prescriber may submit the "Exception to Three-Month Supply" prior authorization form.

4. Quantity Limits

Quantity limits are based on generally accepted pharmaceutical guidelines, FDA-approved labeling, efficient dosing regimens, and dosing recommendations. Refer to the Preferred Drug List for quantity limits which include opioid medications.

a) Antipsychotic Injections

Effective August 1, 2020, antipsychotic injections are restricted to members 18 years of age and older. For more information, refer to the [Medicaid Information Bulletins](#) or [Preferred Drug List](#).

a) Short-Acting and Long-Acting Opioid Limit Exceptions

Utah Medicaid restricts short-acting opioid quantity limits to 7 days or less for children 18 years of age and younger and in pregnant women. If a claim for a short-acting opioid is submitted through the point of sale system for a patient 18 years and younger, the system will reject that claim. These days supply limits can be overridden when a valid "cancer pain diagnosis code" is placed on the claim. For all opioid claims billed for an 8 day supply or greater, a reject message will display to the pharmacy that states, "Opioid claims for > 7-day supply for children 18 and younger require a prior authorization." This edit will be in addition to all existing opioid quantity limits and days supply limitations.

New claims for long-acting opioids will require at least a 7-day trial of a short-acting opioid before long-acting opioid use. When a long-acting opioid prescription is submitted, the claims adjudication system will look back 45 days to identify a short- acting opioid. If a short-acting opioid claim is not identified, the claim for the long-acting opioid will be rejected.

Cumulative limits on opioid analgesics are waived for the current treatment of cancer-related pain. Claims for opioids for the treatment of cancer-related pain must be submitted with a current valid ICD-10 diagnosis code G89.3

Neoplasm-related pain (acute) (chronic) to bypass the quantity, MME, or MED limits listed in the Resource Library.

The prescriber is responsible for providing the current correct diagnosis for narcotic analgesics for cancer pain.

The diagnosis code must be submitted electronically by the prescriber on the prescription or computer generated by prescribing software. Pharmacy providers may also obtain diagnosis codes verbally from prescribers, and note: the date, time, and name of the physician's representative providing the diagnosis code on the original prescription.

The pharmacist must enter the diagnosis code into the appropriate diagnoses field when processing a claim.

Note: If a pharmacy fills a narcotic analgesic prescription that does not comply with the requirements above, funds paid by Medicaid will be recovered through post-payment review.

5. Refill Tolerance

Utah Medicaid will pay for a prescription refill only when 80% of the previous prescription has been exhausted, except for opioid analgesics and controlled substances. The calculation is based on the most recent script fill date and quantity.

Refills requested before the 80% of the days supply that has been utilized will be rejected at the pharmacy point-of-sale. For example, a prescription for a 30 days supply has been 80% exhausted on the 24th day after it was dispensed and can be refilled on the 25th day.

Effective April 1, 2020, Utah Medicaid established a refill tolerance of 85% for all controlled substances, including opioids. MME limits will still apply to opioid prescriptions.

Prescription refills must be requested by the Medicaid member, or the member's agent, based on continued medical necessity. Automatically refilled prescriptions, cycle-filled prescriptions, or medication synchronization are not eligible for reimbursement.

C. Drug Shortages

Utah Medicaid may consult the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Shortages database and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Drug Shortages List when making coverage determinations on non-preferred products. If a drug is not listed as unavailable, the onus is on the pharmacy to demonstrate to Medicaid that a product is unavailable by providing one of the following:

- an invoice from a wholesaler that shows that the product is unavailable in the marketplace along with a brief description (e.g., discontinued, on backorder with expected availability date, etc.). In the case that a wholesaler does not have a

product, but the product is available in the marketplace, the expectation is that a different provider would be capable of providing the product; or

- an official written communication from a manufacturer or a wholesaler indicating that a product has been discontinued, is currently on shortage (with expected date of availability), or another statement that there are no commercially available preparations.

Note: Member preference does not constitute a medical necessity.

D. Federal Medicaid Drug Rebate Program

Utah Medicaid only covers prescription medications eligible for federal funds payment. For prescription medications to be eligible for coverage using Federal Medicaid funds, drug manufacturers must participate in the Federal Medicaid Drug Rebate Program per federal law (42 USC 1396r-8).

Note: Certain medications are exempt from the Federal Medicaid Drug Rebate Program requirement by law (e.g., vaccines).

For additional information, refer to the [Medicaid Drug Rebate Program](#)

E. Mandatory Generic

Utah Code 58-17b-606 mandates that when a multisource legend drug is available in the generic form, Utah Medicaid may only reimburse for the generic form of the drug except for drugs designated as "Brand required over generic". For additional information regarding the mandatory generic drug policy, refer to [R414-60-4](#).

F. Mandatory Patient Counseling

For information regarding mandatory patient counseling, refer to [R414-60-8](#).

G. Preferred Drug List

1. Non-Psychotropic Medications

The Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee advises the DUR Board and the Division in choosing preferred agent(s) for each selected class of drugs based on safety and clinical efficacy.

For additional information about the P&T Committee, meeting agendas, or meeting materials refer to [Utah Medicaid P&T Committee](#) or [R414-60B](#).

2. Psychotropic Medications

For the purposes of the Preferred Drug List (PDL), psychotropic medications are defined as the following:

- Atypical antipsychotics
- Antidepressants
- Anticonvulsant/mood stabilizers
- Anti-anxiety medications

- Epilepsy medications
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder stimulants

If a prescriber writes “dispense as written” on a prescription for a non-preferred psychotropic drug, the pharmacy may submit a “Dispense as Written” (DAW) Code of “1” on the claim. Submitting the DAW code will allow the claim to bypass the prior authorization requirement for the non-preferred psychotropic drug at the point of sale. Checked boxes or pre-printed forms that include “dispense as written” are not acceptable substitutes for the prescriber writing, “dispense as written” on the prescription.

Note: The DAW Code will not allow claims for the brand-name version of multisource drugs to process, even though the brand-name version of the drug is listed as non-preferred and the prescriber writes “dispense as written” on the prescription. If a Medicaid member needs the brand-name version that is listed as non-preferred, a prior authorization request must be submitted to Utah Medicaid using the [Medication Coverage Exception Request](#) prior authorization form.

For more information, refer to [R414-60B](#) and the [Preferred Drug List](#).

H. Prescription Order

All claims for covered medications, including over-the-counter medications, must be prescribed by a licensed prescriber acting within their scope of practice according to licensure. Prescription orders must contain all required information and be issued in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations.

1. Pharmacist Prescribing

Effective January 1, 2022, a pharmacist may prescribe a prescription drug or device for specific conditions without the oversight of a physician. These conditions are determined to be public health concerns by the Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with Utah Code § 358-17b-102. These conditions include, but are not limited to:

1. Post-exposure HIV prophylaxis
2. Pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis
3. Self-administered hormonal contraceptives
4. Smoking cessation
5. Naloxone

Effective January 1, 2022, Utah Medicaid will pay a dispensing fee for any prescription dispensed with a Medicaid-registered pharmacist individual NPI. A pharmacist who wishes to prescribe for Medicaid members will find more information on how to become a Medicaid provider here: <https://medicaid.utah.gov/become-medicaid-provider/>

III. Member Eligibility

For information regarding verification of a member's Medicaid eligibility, refer to [R414-60-3](#), or the [Eligibility Lookup Tool](#).

Medicaid members may be referred to and enrolled in the Restriction Program. For more information, contact us at 801-538- 9045 or toll-free at 800-662-9651 #900.

A. Dual Eligible Members (Medicare & Medicaid)

For information regarding dual eligible members on Medicare Part D, refer to [R414-60-3](#).

Medicaid may cover any remaining patient liability for Medicare Part B covered drugs for dual-eligible members as described in Utah State Plan, Attachment 4.19-B, Supplement 1 to Attachment 4.19-B, Page 3.

For billing Medicare/Medicaid crossover claims, see Section I: General Information in [Utah Provider Manual](#), 11-5.1 Medicare Crossover for more information.

IV. Pharmacy Program Coverage

A. Covered Services

1. Biologic Medications and Biosimilar Substitutions

A biosimilar is a biologic product that is highly similar to the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) approved biologic, known as reference product or parent product. To be FDA-approved as a biosimilar, the product must have the following: same mechanism of action, dosage form, strength, and route of administration as the reference product. Also, a biosimilar must have no clinically meaningful differences in terms of safety, purity, and potency when compared to the parent product.

Additional requirements must be met for a biologic to be titled as an interchangeable biosimilar. These requirements include not only showing that the product is expected to produce the same clinical result as the reference product in any given patient, but also that switching back and forth between the parent biologic product and the biosimilar causes the patient no additional risks in terms of safety or diminished efficacy as using only the reference product.

The key difference between a biosimilar and an interchangeable biosimilar is that the interchangeable biosimilar can be substituted for the reference product by the dispensing pharmacist without prescriber involvement.

The FDA publishes the "[Purple Book](#)" that lists FDA-approved biological products, which includes biosimilars and interchangeable biosimilars. This publication serves as a reference to healthcare providers to determine which biological products are FDA-approved as reference products, biosimilars, or interchangeable biosimilars.

Utah Medicaid will continue to use the FDA “Purple Book” as a reference and unless otherwise limited through the prior authorization process, Utah Medicaid will not mandate interchange of biosimilars unless they are listed as interchangeable.

Utah Medicaid evaluates reference products and biosimilars for safety and efficacy and may “prefer” one or more over others. When a prior authorization is received for a “non-preferred” reference product or biosimilar the Medicaid staff will contact the requesting provider to ask that they switch to the “preferred” version. As per above, Utah Medicaid will not mandate interchange/substitution of biosimilars unless they are listed as interchangeable.

2. Compounded Prescriptions

Covered compounds may contain both covered and non-covered ingredients; however, if a compound contains non-covered ingredients, then it must be submitted with the Submission Clarification Code = 8.

Utah Medicaid requests that pharmacies closely review the Compound Billing Alert Fax Blast to ensure compound claims are being billed correctly. For additional information regarding compounds, refer to [R414-60-11](#).

Note: Dispensing fee does include the preparation costs for compounded prescriptions. A pharmacy may not charge a Medicaid member an additional fee for any service that is reimbursed as part of the dispensing fee.

3. Cough & Cold Products

Under [R414-60-5](#), Medicaid covers prescription cough and cold preparations meeting the definition of a covered outpatient drug.

4. Diabetic Testing Supplies

a) Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM)

Preferred glucose monitors are based on the preferred test strips available on the Preferred Drug List for Medicaid members at no charge. Claims for preferred glucose monitors can be submitted using the billing information included on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) under Diagnostic Products.

Effective April 1, 2021, Utah Medicaid covers CGM through the pharmacy point of sale system. Coverage for all CGMs will require a clinical [prior authorization](#). Please refer to the [Preferred Drug List](#) for a list of preferred and non-preferred CGM products.

b) Diabetic Testing Strips and Lancets

Preferred blood glucose test strips on the Preferred Drug List are a Medicaid covered benefit through the pharmacy program, up to a maximum of 200 strips per month. Prescriptions for quantities over 200 test strips require prior authorization using the [Medication Coverage Exception Request](#) prior authorization form.

Claims for non-preferred diabetic supplies must be submitted through the medical supply program as Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and will not be authorized through the pharmacy point-of-sale system.

5. Drugs to Promote Fertility

Drugs to promote fertility may be covered for eligible members with specific genetic conditions or heritable traits as well as members undergoing gonadotoxic cancer treatments or other medically necessary treatments that are expected to render them permanently infertile (excluding voluntary sterilization) either pre or post treatment. Please refer to the All Providers General Information Section I Manual Chapter 8-22 Genetic Carrier Screening and In Vitro Fertilization and Chapter 8-23 Fertility Preservation for eligibility information

6. Managed Care Entity Carve-Out

The following classes of medications and individual drugs are carved out from MCE coverage and are part of the FFS Medicaid benefit:

- Transplant Immunosuppressive Drugs
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Stimulant Drugs
- Antipsychotic Drugs
- Antidepressant Drugs
- Anti-anxiety Drugs
- Anticonvulsant Drugs
- Hemophilia Drugs
- Opioid Use Disorder Treatments
- Ultra High Cost Drugs (>\$1M per dose)

7. Medical Billing for Prescription Medications Using HCPCS or CPT Codes

Pharmacy-related HCPCS and CPT code coverage can be found using the [Coverage and Reimbursement Code Lookup](#). Providers shall review the HCPCS NDC Crosswalk using the [Fee Schedule Download Tool](#) to ensure the NDC being used is covered. For additional information contact the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy Team at 801-538-6155 option 3, 3, 2.

8. Opioids

a) **Short-Acting Opioid Initial Fill**

Utah Medicaid restricts the initial fill of short-acting opioids that exceed a 7-day supply or 3 days for dental providers. When a claim for a short-acting opioid is submitted to Utah Medicaid, the pharmacy claims processing system will determine whether the member has had a prescription for the same medication in the previous 60 days. If the member has not had a claim for the same medication in the previous 60 days, the system will treat the claim as an initial fill and allow no more than a 7-day supply. If a claim has been filled for the member for the same medication in the previous 60 days,

then the claims processing system will allow the claim to process for up to a 30-day supply; however, the claim will be subject to all limitations and restrictions.

(1) MME limit: Opioid Naïve Member Initial Fill

Effective August 1, 2021, the following edits apply:

- Soft messaging educational campaign stating “A max limit of 50 MME for opioid naïve members is recommended by the CDC”
- Immediate release, the short-acting opioid formulation must be filled before a long-acting opioid
- Day supply limitations - 3 days supply for dental providers and 7 days for all other providers
- Individual opioid quantity limits

b) Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) & Cumulative Morphine Equivalent Dosing (MED)

Utah Medicaid uses MME and cumulative daily MED methodology when adjudicating all opioid claims for the treatment of non-cancer pain.

- January 1, 2019, the pharmacy claims adjudication system began using two sets of MED thresholds, depending on member opioid claim history in the last 90 days
 - 90 MED limit is applied to prescriptions for members who have not had a claim for an opioid in the last 90 days from the index opioid prescription
 - 180 MED limit is applied to prescriptions for members who have had a claim for an opioid in the last 90 days from the index opioid prescription
- July 1, 2019, the 180 MED threshold was reduced to 150 MED
- January 1, 2020, the 150 MED threshold was reduced to 120 MED
- July 1, 2020, the 120 MED threshold was reduced to 90 MED

In accordance with the CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain — United States, 2022 | MMWR, effective December 1, 2023, the MME values for oral hydromorphone, methadone, and tramadol have been updated. Other policies regarding MME and quantity limits remain unchanged.

Opioid	Current MME Factor	MME Factor effective 12/1/2023
Hydromorphone	4	5
Methadone	3	4.7

Opioid	Current MME Factor	MME Factor effective 12/1/2023
Tramadol	0.1	0.2

c) Non-Opioid Alternatives

Utah Medicaid recommends non-opioid analgesics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications for the treatment of chronic pain. The PDL has a variety of FDA-approved, CDC recommended, non-opioid treatment options for pain available for Utah Medicaid members, and many are available as a three-month supply. Refer to the Preferred Drug List for covered non-opioid options.

9. Outpatient Cancer Therapy

For information about outpatient cancer therapy, refer to [R414-60-7](#).

10. Sodium Fluoride Chewable Supplements

Effective June 1st, 2024, Utah Medicaid covers chewable fluoride supplements for members age 6 to 16 years. For more information, please refer to the Preferred Drug List & Resource Document and R414-60-5.

11. Tobacco Cessation Products

Both over the counter and prescription tobacco cessation products are available under the pharmacy program for Medicaid members with a prescription. The prescriber can provide a prescription to be filled by the pharmacy for the member to be covered by Medicaid. For additional information, refer to [Utah Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Program](#).

12. Vaccines

a) COVID-19 Vaccines

- Utah Medicaid will continue to cover vaccine counseling. This service is open to members eligible for Traditional EPSDT coverage. Counseling may be performed for any vaccine. This service may not be billed during the same visit that a vaccine was delivered.
- Coverage for the COVID-19 uninsured group for testing, treatment, and vaccination, terminated at the end of the PHE 5/12/2023.
- Effective 7/1/23, COVID-19 Treatments, and COVID vaccines will no longer be carved out. Providers should bill qualified services to the member's managed care plan if the member is enrolled in such a plan.
- Copays for COVID-19 treatment, vaccines, and tests will continue to be waived for one year and one quarter after the end of the PHE. Effective 10/1/2024, copays will no longer be waived on claims that have a COVID-19 diagnosis.

- Effective 2/14/2024 claims for COVID vaccines processed through the pharmacy point-of-sale system, will be paid for the cost of the vaccine (lesser of logic) and the associated dispensing fee. To receive the COVID administration fee of \$40.00, the pharmacy must submit the code "MA" in the professional service code field. If no "MA" is submitted in the professional service code field, the pharmacy will be paid only for the cost of the vaccine and associated dispensing fee.

b) Claims in POS

Claims for adult Medicaid members (age 19 and older) for Hepatitis B, pneumonia, seasonal and pandemic flu, and herpes zoster vaccines administered by pharmacists can be processed through the pharmacy point of sale.

c) Vaccines For Children Program

Claims for pediatric Medicaid members (age 18 and younger) for vaccines eligible through the Vaccines for Children Program must be submitted through the [Vaccines for Children Program](#). Immunizations will only be eligible for a dispensing fee with no reimbursement for the immunization.

For additional information regarding reimbursement, refer to [R414-60-7](#)

B. Non-Covered Services

For information on non-covered services and limitations that apply to all Utah Medicaid programs and the circumstances in which a Medicaid member may be billed for non-covered Medicaid services, refer to [R414-60-5](#).

V. Pharmacy Prior Authorization

A. ADHD Stimulants

Utah Medicaid policy supports the safe and appropriate use of ADHD stimulant medications. This policy is developed in alignment with the American Academy of Pediatrics and the University of South Florida clinical guidelines.

Effective July 2020, age edit limitations apply when a claim for an ADHD stimulant is processed through the pharmacy point of sale:

- ADHD stimulant prescriptions are allowed for children 4 years of age and older, unless otherwise specified on the Preferred Drug List:

Also, effective April 2021, a multiple agent edits, and a cross-class edit limitation will apply when claims for ADHD stimulants are processed through the pharmacy point of sale:

- Three or more unique ADHD stimulant medications were prescribed concurrently for at least 30 days in the last 45 days across all ages.
- Cross-class prescribing of ADHD stimulant medications from the amphetamine class and the methylphenidate class for at least 30 days in the last 45 days for children under 18 years of age.

Effective January 1, 2022, a peer-to-peer educational intervention was implemented to prescribers of high dose stimulant medications. This education intervention emphasizes prescribing within FDA approved labeling and potential risks of high dose prescribing.

Exceptions to ADHD stimulant safety edits are reviewed on a case-by-case basis by submitting the [ADHD Stimulants](#) Prior Authorization Form.

B. New Drug Products

Any new drug product(s) will require a prescriber to submit a New to Market Drugs prior authorization request to Utah Medicaid. For additional information regarding new drug products, refer to [R414-60-9](#)

C. Off-Label Use

Utah Medicaid may restrict coverage of a drug to the FDA-approved indication (labeled indication) or compendia per federal law 42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(k)(6). Prescribers may request prior authorization by submitting the [Medication Coverage Exception Request](#).

D. Pharmacy Continuation of Care

Members transitioning to Medicaid from other payers may encounter differences in pharmacy coverage (preferred / non-preferred status) resulting in claim denial. The non-preferred policy requires that the member try and fail at least one preferred agent, however, exceptions may be made when a request is received for a continuation of care.

Continuation of care (COC) is defined as evidence of the member being on the requested medication for a minimum of 60 out of the last 90 days unless the medication is used emergently. Evidence, or supporting documentation, to request support of approval must be submitted with the Medical Exception Prior Authorization Request and may include any of the following:

- Chart notes
- Fill history obtained from the controlled substance database or dispensing pharmacy claims history
- E-mail messages provided by prescriber clinical staff
- Letter of medical justification
- Medicaid claims history
- Verbal or written attestation of medical need provided by prescriber clinical staff

If sufficient documentation does not exist, the request will be clinically evaluated and a limited transitional fill may be approved. In this instance, adequate documentation may be required for additional approvals.

E. Prior Authorizations

Pharmacy prior authorizations must be initiated by a Medicaid prescriber. Forms and criteria information can be found on the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy web page, [Prior Authorization](#).

For prescriptions covered by the member ACO, contact the ACO for their PA procedures. Refer to the [Resource Library](#) for updated ACO billing information.

Per [R414-60-5](#), a pharmacy may dispense a covered outpatient drug that requires prior authorization for up to a 72-hour supply without obtaining prior authorization during a medical emergency. The pharmacist should use professional judgment to define a medical emergency. All subsequent claims must satisfy all prior authorization criteria or other limitations for the medications.

The pharmacy must submit prior authorization type code (461-EU)=2 and prior authorization number submitted (462-EV)=72.

The 72-hour override is limited to two per month per NDC per member. All copay and dispensing fee rules apply.

For additional information regarding pharmacy prior authorizations, refer to [R414-60](#).

F. Rare Disease

The "Rare Disease Medications" prior authorization form will be required for approval of medications that treat a rare disease and for which prior authorization is required but there is not a drug-specific form available. In determining which drugs will require the "Rare Disease Medications" PA form, the Department will include (but not be limited to) consideration of the drug FDA approval status:

- "Orphan status designation" approval: drugs and biologics intended for the safe and effective treatment, diagnosis, or prevention of rare disorders that affect fewer than 200,000 people in the U.S.
- "Rare pediatric disease" approval: "the orphan [drug population] subset must be serious or life-threatening and the serious or life-threatening manifestations of the orphan subset must primarily affect individuals aged from birth to 18 years."

Effective September 1, 2020, [Rare Disease Medications](#) Prior Authorization is required for any medications that have orphan drug designation as mentioned above and may be required for other, non-orphan medications for rare diseases.

VI. Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB) Program

The purpose of the Utah Medicaid DUR Program is to promote evidence-based best clinical practice as well as identify patterns of fraud, abuse, gross overuse, and inappropriate or suboptimal treatment. We aim to partner with prescribers, pharmacists, and Medicaid patients to enhance prescribing and dispensing practices as well as medication use by individual patients.

Pharmacy staff utilizes communication tools, such as motivational interviewing, to promote and reinforce best practices in the delivery and administration of pharmacy benefits.

For information about the Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board, meeting agendas, or meeting materials, refer to the Utah Administrative Code [R414-60A](#), and [Utah Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board](#).

A. Prospective Drug Utilization Review

Prospective drug utilization review involves a review of drug therapy before each prescription is filled or delivered to a member and includes counseling of the member or their caregiver. This counseling is based on evidence-based predetermined clinical standards.

1. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Stimulants

Stimulant medications are utilized first-line to treat ADHD. These agents have high misuse potential and are associated with significant, lasting adverse effects when taken at chronically high doses. Point-of-sale edits and prior authorization requirements have been implemented based on guideline recommendations to minimize concurrent use of different classes of stimulant medication and prevent utilization of unsafe chronic stimulant doses.

2. Benzodiazepine and Opioid Concurrent Use

Utah Medicaid has begun a multi-stage effort to identify and limit the concurrent filling of benzodiazepine and opioid medications. This initiative supports CDC safety guidance that recommends against combined use, which is associated with the risk of fatal overdose. Currently, an automated process monitors and reports when an individual is co-prescribed opioids and benzodiazepines. The peer-to-peer team conducts outreach to identified prescribers to alert them of patients receiving concurrent therapy, provide education around concurrent use avoidance, and encourage prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) use before prescribing a Schedule II controlled substance, per the Federal HR6, SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act.

Combined use of opioids and benzodiazepines potentiate respiratory depression, which may result in nonfatal overdose and death. Utah Medicaid supports FDA labeling and CDC best practice and safety standards which advise against concurrent use.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/>)

- July 1, 2019: Concurrent prescribing of long-acting opioid medications and benzodiazepines are restricted through the pharmacy point of sale system. When a claim for either a long-acting opioid or a benzodiazepine is submitted, the system will look back 45 days to find any paid claims for either benzodiazepines or long-acting opioids. If a paid claim for a benzodiazepine is found, the long-acting opioid claim will be rejected. Likewise, if a paid claim for a long-acting opioid is found, the benzodiazepine claim will be rejected. Any exceptions to this concurrent use

restriction will be evaluated through the prior authorization process, using the [Opioid and/or Opioid-Benzodiazepine Combination](#) prior authorization form.

- October 1, 2019: Utah Medicaid deployed a Drug Utilization Review (DUR) hard edit when a short-acting opioid claim is filled concurrently with a benzodiazepine. The DUR hard edit will require pharmacist input of an NCPDP override code, documenting the intervention made, before the claim will process. All other existing opioid edits will apply to the processing of opioid claims.

Utah Medicaid encourages filling pharmacists to incorporate these standards when filling opioid-benzodiazepine prescriptions:

- Routinely check the controlled substance database with the filling of each opioid prescription
- Proactively counsel patients about the risks of respiratory depression when combined use is identified
- Proactively offer naloxone and educate on the appropriate use
- Proactively outreach to prescribers to consider other, safer combinations

3. Gabapentin/Pregabalin Concurrent Use

The Drug Utilization Review Board reviewed the safety and misuse/abuse potential of gabapentin and pregabalin during the January 2020 meeting. To promote best practice and safety standards that align with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeling, Utah Medicaid set prospective drug utilization review quantity limits for gabapentin at 3,600 mg/day and pregabalin at 600 mg/day effective April 1, 2020. In addition, concurrent use of gabapentin and pregabalin will not be permitted. Claims processed through the point-of-sale system that exceeds established quantity limits or use standards will require prior authorization.

4. Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder

The Utah Medicaid PDL includes medications used for the treatment of opioid use disorder. Refer to the [Preferred Drug List](#) for coverage options.

Effective January 1, 2021, Utah Medicaid will limit the use of opioid medications in members who are also receiving medications to treat opioid use disorder (MAT). When a claim for an opioid medication is processed through the pharmacy point of sale system, the system will look back to identify if a claim for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) has been processed in the last 45 days. If the system recognizes that a claim for MAT has been processed in the last 45 days, the system will limit the opioid to a supply of 7 days or less, regardless of the prescribed quantity/duration. If the system does not identify a concurrent claim for MAT in the last 45 days, then the opioid will process without a 7-day limitation. All opioid policy limits still apply.

5. Opioid Use in Pregnancy

In March 2016, the FDA strengthened warnings about the risks related to opioid use and potential misuse, abuse, and addiction. One of those risks is Neonatal Abstinence

Syndrome (NAS) or Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS) which may occur in infants who are chronically exposed to opioids in utero.

NAS/NOWS is a withdrawal syndrome that occurs in infants who were exposed to opioids in utero. The syndrome is characterized by tremors, irritability, poor feeding, respiratory distress, and seizures, all of which develop shortly after birth. From 2004 to 2014, the incidence of NAS in the United States increased from 1.5 to 8.0 per 1,000 hospital births, a more than fivefold increase. Carefully consider any use of opioids in the management of pregnant individuals. This policy does not apply to pregnant women on methadone maintenance for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

- October 1, 2019: Utah Medicaid restricts opioid quantity limits to 7 days or less for pregnant individuals.
 - If a claim for an opioid is submitted through the point of sale system for more than a 7-day supply for a pregnant individual, the system will reject that claim.

B. Retrospective Drug Utilization Review

Retrospective drug utilization interventions involve a review of claims data or other historic records to inform policy and create interventions to improve patient outcomes. Outcome measures are derived from CMS guidance and measures outlined by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

1. Antipsychotics in Children

Utah Medicaid implemented a new policy on October 1, 2019, to monitor and manage antipsychotic (AP) medications prescribed to members 19 years of age and younger.

Retrospective Drug Utilization Review (DUR) peer to peer educational interventions that support the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry best practices for use of AP in children addresses the following:

- Use of other first-line services (psychosocial counseling and safer medications) before initiation of AP
- Dosing of AP should follow the “start low and go slow” approach
- Identification of “higher than recommended” doses for AP
- Careful and frequent monitoring of AP-related side effects
 - Metabolic screening
 - Body Mass Index, weight gain
 - Assessments for movement disorders
- Use of AP in very young children (e.g., younger than 6 years old)
- Use of multiple concurrent AP (17 years of age and younger only)

Utah Medicaid requires a diagnosis code on all prescription claims for AP medications. Prescribers must include the diagnosis codes with each prescription for an AP given to a child 19 years of age and younger. Pharmacies are required to enter the diagnosis code

into the point-of-sale system when processing a claim for an AP. Retrospective peer-to-peer outreach will address off-label use of AP in this vulnerable population.

High dose limits for AP will be established in the pharmacy point of sale system. Very high doses of AP have not been proven effective in children and may be associated with a greater incidence of adverse effects, including movement disorders. Claims for AP submitted to Utah Medicaid that exceed the pre-established limits will be rejected at the pharmacy point of sale and require prior authorization.

a) Recommended Monitoring of Children for Antipsychotic-Related Side Effects
Effective April 1, 2023, "Antipsychotics in Children" prior authorization requests will no longer require documentation of metabolic monitoring for children receiving antipsychotics. Utah Medicaid strongly supports the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Diabetes Association, and American Psychiatric Association recommendations that measurements be taken prior to or immediately after an antipsychotic prescription and regularly during treatment. However, removing this metabolic testing requirement intends to further enhance access and mental health care services for children served by Medicaid.

Children enrolled in Medicaid receive antipsychotic medications at a substantially higher rate than non-Medicaid pediatric populations. Antipsychotic use in children is frequently "off label" and prescribed before safer, first-line options have been trialed. Antipsychotic medications can have severe side effects including metabolic changes, weight gain, and movement disorders. These side effects can be irreversible. Because of these risks, Utah Medicaid recommends the inclusion of documentation of monitoring of antipsychotic-related side effects OR clinical rationale for the lack thereof when submitting the "[Antipsychotics in Children](#)" prior authorization.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry endorse the American Diabetes Association and American Psychiatric Association recommendations that children receiving antipsychotic medication should have side effects monitored via parameters measured at treatment initiation and regularly repeated thereafter, including:

Parameter	Frequency of Monitoring
Personal and family history of obesity, diabetes, dyslipidemia, hypertension, or cardiovascular disease	Treatment initiation, annually
Weight	Treatment initiation, months 1, 2, 3, and annually
Waist circumference	Treatment initiation, annually
Blood pressure	Treatment initiation, 3 months, annually
Fasting plasma glucose	Treatment initiation, 3 months, annually
Fasting lipid profile (HDL, LDL, TG, TC) *	Treatment initiation, 3 months, then every 6 months

HDL: high-density lipoprotein

LDL: low-density lipoprotein

TG: triglyceride

TC: total cholesterol

2. Hemophilia Medication Management

Fee-for-service members and their families receive comprehensive care management services provided by a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals from the Hemophilia Treatment Centers and the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy Team, per national treatment guidelines.

Care management includes but is not limited to:

- claims review
- verification of monthly eligibility and ongoing enrollment requirements
- contact with eligible FFS Medicaid members to assess their hemophilia needs and well-being
- continuous outreach to ensure adherence and transparency of care
- coordinating with in-home nursing and the Hemophilia Treatment Centers as necessary

Members of the care team from the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy include clinical pharmacists and pharmacy technicians that received comprehensive training from the Hemophilia Treatment Centers, as well as online training.

3. Hepatitis C Medication Adherence

Adherence to Hepatitis C antiviral medication therapy is essential for ensuring a treatment cure for undetectable viral loads. Pharmacy staff telephonically reach out to patients who have been non-adherent to Hepatitis C medications during a course of therapy to identify adherence barriers and provider support. Follow-up is conducted to promote medication adherence for the duration of antiviral treatment.

VII. Billing

Utah Medicaid requires all pharmacy claims to be submitted electronically through the pharmacy point-of-sale system using the National Council of Prescription Drug Plan (NCPDP) version D.0 standard. The point-of-sale system provides pharmacists with the ability to submit pharmacy claims electronically with "real-time" claim processing. To assist pharmacies in submitting electronic claims, Utah Medicaid posts an NCPDP version D.0 payer sheet located in the [Resource Library](#).

Utah Medicaid reviews all pharmacy claims to identify inappropriately billed prescriptions. Medicaid will work with the pharmacy to correct erroneous claims within the timely filing requirement. Repeat issues may be referred to OIG for further investigation per Utah Code Section 63A-13-3.

A. 340B Billing

Covered entities participating in the 340B Program must comply with all 340B Program requirements <https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/index.html>. States shall collect Medicaid rebates for covered outpatient drugs, unless the drug was subject to a 340B Drug Discount Program discount (42 U.S.C. §1396r-8(j)(1)) and indicated as such per the state's policies. Medicaid excludes claims from drug rebate invoicing if the provider indicates a 340B drug was dispensed.

340B Program compliance rests entirely on the covered entity. 340B-covered entities can be sanctioned for causing duplicate discounts or drug diversion (42 U.S.C. § 256B).

Each 340B-covered entity should carefully review its claims to ensure the indicators and actual acquisition costs were correctly billed. A covered entity identifying 340B claims that were billed inappropriately should resubmit claims to Medicaid to correct the 340B indicator(s) or correct the actual acquisition cost submitted within the timely filing requirement.

If the covered entity is unable (due to timely filing deadline or otherwise) or unwilling to submit a corrected claim, the 340B covered entity must work directly with the manufacturer to resolve the duplicate discount issue.

1. 340B Billing for Medical Claims

All claims submitted to Utah Medicaid from a 340B covered entity for medications that were purchased through the 340B program must be submitted with the provider 340B actual acquisition cost as the billed charges and the "TB" or "JG" modifier after the HCPCS code on each claim line.

Claims submitted without the provider 340B actual acquisition cost as the billed charges and the "TB" or "JG" modifier on the claim line indicate that the covered entity purchased the medication outside of the 340B program and Utah Medicaid will pursue the federal Medicaid drug rebate on those claims.

- JG: Drug or biological acquired with 340B drug pricing program discount
- TB: Drug or biological acquired with 340B drug pricing program discount, reported for informational purposes

Reporting is mandatory for the following providers:

Not Paid Under OPPS				
Hospital Type (determined by CMS)	Pass-through Drug (SI "G")	Separately Payable Drug (SI "K")	Vaccine (SI "F" "L" or "M")	Packaged Drug (SI "N")
CAH	TB, Optional	TB, Optional	N/A	TB or JG, Optional

Non- Excepted Off-Campus PBD	TB	TB	N/A	TB or JG, Optional
Paid under the OPPS, Excepted from the 340B Payment Adjustment for 2018				
Hospital Type (determined by CMS)	Pass-through Drug (SI "G")	Separately Payable Drug (SI "K")	Vaccine (SI "F" "L" or "M")	Packaged Drug (SI "N")
Children's Hospital	TB	TB	N/A	TB or JG, Optional
PPS-Exempt Cancer Hospital	TB	TB	N/A	TB or JG, Optional

For additional billing guidance refer to

<https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jfa/topics/drugs-biologicals-injections/340b-drug-program>.

For dual-eligible beneficiaries who participate in both the Medicare and Medicaid programs, when a 340B covered entity submits a crossover drug claim to Utah Medicaid, it must contain a "JG" or "TB" modifier.

2. 340B Outpatient Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) Billing (POS)

All claims submitted to Utah Medicaid from a 340B covered entity for medications that were purchased through the 340B program must be submitted with the provider 340B actual acquisition cost in the Ingredient Cost Field, a value of "8" in the Basis of Cost field, and a value of "20" in the Submission Clarification Code field.

Claims submitted without the provider 340B actual acquisition cost in the Ingredient Cost Field, a value of "8" in the Basis of Cost field, and a value of "20" in the Submission Clarification Code field indicate that the covered entity purchased the medication outside of the 340B program and Utah Medicaid will pursue the federal Medicaid drug rebate and supplemental rebate on those claims.

Claims submitted to Utah Medicaid from a 340B covered entity for medications that were not purchased through the 340B program may be submitted in accordance with Utah Medicaid and the pharmacy's normal business practices.

340B covered entities may not utilize contract pharmacies to bill Utah Medicaid, unless the covered entity, the contract pharmacy and the State Medicaid agency have established a written arrangement to prevent duplicate discounts. Any such

arrangement shall be reported to the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA and Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), by the 340B covered entity.

B. Decimal Quantities

Pharmacies must submit claims to Utah Medicaid using the actual metric decimal quantities of medications dispensed to Medicaid members based on the National Council of Prescription Drug Plans (NCPDP) billing unit for drugs.

Rounding units, packages, or sizes, or submitting quantities that are inconsistent with the NCPDP billing unit on a claim is not allowed and will be rejected at the point of sale.

C. End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Billing

The dialysis composite payment rate for all covered dialysis revenue codes is based on the Medicare ESRD Prospective Payment System base rate as identified and approved in Attachment 4.19-B on Page 12a of the Utah Medicaid State Plan.

Dialysis services should be billed as a UB-04 Claim using one of the following Revenue Codes.

Covered Dialysis Revenue Codes:

- Revenue code 0821 (Hemodialysis)
- Revenue code 0831 (Peritoneal Dialysis)
- Revenue code 0841 (Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis)
- Revenue code 0851 (Continuous Cycling Peritoneal Dialysis).

Each dialysis session should be billed as one (1) unit with the appropriate Revenue Code. All covered dialysis revenue codes are reimbursed at the same rate. It is not necessary to bill separately for services delivered during the dialysis session that are included in the composite payment. Claim lines submitted on the UB-04 Claim for services included in the composite rate will be denied.

Procedure codes for ESRD services with accompanying criteria and limitations can be verified by using the Utah Medicaid, Office of Healthcare Policy and Authorization, Coverage and Reimbursement Code Lookup. For additional information regarding coverage for dialysis services by ESRD facility refer to [R414-19A](#).

D. National Prescriber Identifier

Federal regulation 42 C.F.R. 455.410(b) requires all prescriptions for Utah Medicaid members to be issued by a prescriber who is enrolled with Utah Medicaid. Prescriptions that are issued by a non-enrolled prescriber or claims submitted with a National Prescriber Identifier (NPI) not associated with an enrolled prescriber will be denied.

Utah Medicaid requires the NPI submitted on a pharmacy claim to be the NPI of the prescriber that issued the prescription. Claims submitted with an incorrect prescriber NPI will either be denied or subject to recoupment on post-payment review.

E. Procedure Codes

Outpatient pharmacy claims submitted to Utah Medicaid electronically using the NCPDP Version D.0 standard do not need to be submitted with a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code.

F. Provider Administered Drugs

Provider administered drugs are administered in physician offices or outpatient facilities by doctors or eligible staff. These drugs must be reasonable, necessary, indicated for diagnoses, or effective treatments of specific illnesses or injuries based on accepted standards of medical practice. All other program plan coverage and limitations still apply.

Note: self-administered drugs shall not be billed as a provider-administered drug

As described in [Utah Medicaid State Plan, 4.19-B Methods and Standards for Establishing Payment Rates - Other Types of Care](#), claims for covered provider administered drugs adjudicated in the PRISM system are reimbursed under the same reimbursement logic for covered outpatient drugs billed through the pharmacy point of sale system, with the exception that no professional dispensing fee will be paid.

HCPCS coverage status can be verified by using the [PRISM Coverage and Reimbursement Code Lookup](#) and coverage of the NDC can be verified using the [PRISM Coverage and Reimbursement Fee Schedule Download HCPCS/NDC Crosswalk](#).

Additionally, claim lines for provider administered drugs must contain both the appropriate HCPCS code, HCPCS unit, and the correct National Drug Code (NDC) of the medication administered to the Medicaid member. The NDC of the product administered to the Medicaid member must be active, valid, and eligible for the federal Medicaid drug rebate in order for the claim line to be considered for reimbursement. If the submitted combination is unmatched, the claim will deny. The HCPCS to NDC crosswalk and billing requirements apply to claims administered in physician offices (CMS-1500 claim) and in outpatient settings (UB-04 claim).

Providers and interested parties who wish to submit requests for consideration of additional HCPCS to NDC matches, or to make changes to existing matches, may do so via the [Physician Administered Review Request Form](#).

Note: NDCs must be submitted with eleven (11) digits in a 5-4-2 digit format (without dashes). NDCs submitted as ten (10) digit codes or eleven (11) digit codes with dashes will result in the claim being denied. The first five (5) digits of the NDC are the manufacturer labeler code, the middle four (4) digits are the product code, and the last two (2) digits are

the package size. If one were to encounter a NDC that is less than eleven (11) digits, add the missing digits as follows:

- For a 4-4-2 NDC, add a 0 to the beginning of the code as the first digit.
- For a 5-3-2 NDC, add a 0 as the sixth digit.
- For a 5-4-1 NDC, add a 0 as the tenth digit

A covered entity using medications purchased through the 340B program should refer to the 340B chapter of this manual for additional information.

The following information must be provided on a CMS-1500 Claim Form when billing for provider administered drugs:

- NDC – Box 24D (Procedures, Services, or Supplies), shaded area
- Drug Unit Price – Box 24F (\$ Charges), shaded area
- Basis of Measurement Qualifier and Units – Box 24G (Days or Units), shaded area.
Use the following qualifiers:
 - ML – for milliliters
 - GR – for grams
 - UN – for units
 - F2 – for international units

When billing the CMS-1500 electronically, the information needs to be reported in the following X12 fields (contact your software vendor for specific information):

- 2410 LIN03= NDC number preceded with N4 (LIN02=N4)
- 2410 CTP05-1= Units of measure qualifier (GR, ML, UN, F2)
- 2410 CTP04= Number of units (place the number of units immediately after the units of measure qualifier)
- 2410 CTP03= Cost or Unit Price

Outpatient hospital claims that include lines for drugs must provide the NDC when billing Medicaid on the UB-04 claim form. The NDC code must be included on the claim line immediately below the REV Code and Procedure Code (Form locator 43), the Units preceded by a qualifier (Form locator 46), and the Unit Price (Form locator 47).

When billing the UB-04 electronically, the information needs to be reported in the following X12 fields (contact your software vendor for specific information):

- 2410 LIN03= NDC number preceded with N4 (LIN02=N4)
- 2410 CTP05-1= Units of measure qualifier (GR, ML, ME, F2)
- 2410 CTP04= Number of units (place the number of units immediately after the units of measure qualifier)
- 2410 CTP03= Cost or Unit Price

Provider-administered drugs that do not require payment, such as samples or those previously billed at a pharmacy, should report the appropriate HCPCS and \$0.0 or \$0.1 charge.

NOC (Not Otherwise Classified) HCPCS codes should only be reported for drugs that do not have a drug-specific HCPCS code (e.g. including but not limited to J3490, J3590).

For provider administered drugs used for the treatment of an opioid use disorder, a pharmacy may bill Medicaid. The pharmacy may only release this provider-administered drug used for the treatment of an opioid disorder to the administering provider or the provider's staff for treatment.

VIII. Reimbursement

A. Dispensing Fee

A pharmacy may not charge a Medicaid member an additional fee for any service that is reimbursed as part of the dispensing fee.

For additional information about dispensing fees, refer to [the Utah Medicaid State Plan, ATTACHMENT 4.19 B, Page 19a](#) and R414-60-7.

B. Drug Pricing Metrics

Utah Medicaid reimburses pharmacies for prescription drugs in accordance with the Utah State Plan ATTACHMENT 4.19-B. Published pricing metrics used for reimbursement logic include Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC), Federal Upper Limit (FUL), National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC), and Utah Maximum Allowable Cost (UMAC).

Pharmacy submitted pricing that is included in the pricing logic includes the amount billed, the usual and customary charge billed to the private pay patient (U&C), and the ingredient cost submitted.

The focus of this article is on published pricing metrics, with an example focused on NADAC. The examples given below use NADAC; however, the general process for pricing updates applies to other published pricing metrics. Other published pricing metrics may have different update cycles, frequencies of updates, and the source of pricing data may vary.

CMS publishes updates to NADAC pricing every Wednesday which includes an effective date for the pricing update. The effective date may be on, before, or after the update publication date. These data are collected by Medi-Span and incorporated into the weekly drug file sent to Utah Medicaid. Updates to the drug file are reviewed by the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy Team each Monday (or Tuesday in the case of a Monday holiday). The load date for the pricing information is the date that the full drug file is loaded and ready in the Utah Medicaid POS system by midweek, typically on Wednesday of that week (or Thursday in the case of a Monday holiday). This means that there is approximately one week from the time

CMS publishes a price update until the price is updated in the Medicaid pharmacy claims adjudication system.

The date that a claim is adjudicated can affect the pricing used on that claim with regard to the date of service, the effective date of a price change, and the load date for the pricing information. The date a price is published will not impact the pricing used for adjudication, except that it impacts the load date as the load date follows the published date by approximately one week.

For example, if a claim is adjudicated after a published pricing update impacts the claim billed NDC price, but before the new price has been loaded into the system, the claim will adjudicate at the old price. If that same claim is reversed, then rebilled after the load date, the claim will adjudicate with the newer price, provided the date of service is on or after the new effective date. This holds true for effective dates that are before the date a pricing update has been published.

Key dates for Medicaid drug pricing metrics:

- Published Date: This is the date that the pricing metric is posted. In the case of NADAC, this is the date that CMS posts the pricing information to the CMS website.
- Effective Date: This is the date that the pricing metric goes into effect.
- Load Date: This is the date that an updated pricing metric is loaded into the Utah Medicaid point of sale system.

Process for all published pricing metrics used by Utah Medicaid:

Note: the frequency of updates for each metric represents how often the catalog of priced NDCs is updated. The pricing of a single, specific NDC will not update as frequently as the metric. For each metric, only NDCs with price changes will be modified with a pricing update.

- NADAC: The National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) for a drug is published by CMS. This pricing information is determined by a contractor, currently Myers & Stauffer, who conducts optional surveys of pharmacies nationwide to approximate the average actual acquisition cost of prescription drugs nationwide. NADAC pricing updates occur once weekly. For more information, please refer to the Retail Price Survey.
- FUL: The Federal Upper Limit (FUL) for a drug is determined by CMS based on criteria published on the CMS website and in accordance with the final rule with comment (CMS-2345-FC), and is closely tied to NADAC pricing. FUL pricing updates occur once monthly near the end of the calendar month.
- WAC: Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) is determined by manufacturers and represents the list price for a drug. The frequency of updates for WAC pricing data is dependent on the drug file vendor. Utah Medicaid currently receives drug file data from Medi-Span on a weekly basis.

- UMAC: The Utah Maximum Allowable Cost (UMAC) is determined by a contractor, currently Myers & Stauffer, who conducts mandatory surveys of Utah Medicaid pharmacy providers to approximate the average actual acquisition cost of prescription drugs for Utah Medicaid pharmacy providers. Myers & Stauffer publishes updated UMAC rates once weekly.

C. Indian Health Services

Indian Health providers are reimbursed for pharmacy services in accordance with the [Utah Medicaid Indian Health Provider Manual](#).

D. Medication Therapy Management Reimbursement

Effective January 1, 2024, members may receive face-to-face and telephonic Medication Therapy Management (MTM) services provided by a Medicaid enrolled pharmacist in an outpatient setting.

Pharmacists shall be licensed in the state of Utah and enrolled as a provider with Utah Medicaid to provide these services. Additional information on how to become a Medicaid provider can be found here: <https://medicaid.utah.gov/become-medicaid-provider/>.

MTM services are covered for Medicaid enrolled adult and pediatric eligible members. Medicaid members may receive one initial MTM service and three follow-up services per calendar year. Medicaid members must be taking at least three medications to treat or prevent at least one chronic disease. Medicaid members cannot be eligible for Medicare Part D to receive these services.

Specific coverage and reimbursement information by procedure code is found in the [Coverage and Reimbursement Code Lookup](#). For a full description of the MTM program, please see the [Utah Medicaid Pharmacy website](#).

E. Self-Administered Hormonal Contraceptive Reimbursement

Effective January 1, 2023, Utah Medicaid will reimburse up to \$20 for an annual consultation fee for services provided by pharmacists who furnish self-administered hormonal contraceptives by either prescription or by standing order in accordance with Utah Administrative Code R156-17b-621b. This reimbursement will be provided for pharmacy point of sale claims that include one of the following diagnosis codes:

- Z30.011 Encounter for initial prescription of contraceptive pills
- Z30.015 Encounter for initial prescription of vaginal ring hormonal contraceptive
- Z30.016 Encounter for initial prescription of transdermal patch hormonal contraceptive device

F. Utah Maximum Allowable Cost and NADAC

Effective October 1, 2020, UMAC pricing for antihemophilia products have been implemented to maintain the UMAC rates. For information regarding the Utah Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC), refer to [R414-60-7](#).

For questions or concerns regarding NADAC pricing, contact Myer's National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) Help Desk at (855) 457-5264 or info@mslcrps.com.

Pharmacies may also submit NADAC pricing inquiries using the Help Desk Form located on the [Retail Price Survey | Medicaid](#) website.

1. IX. References

[Utah State Plan](#), Attachment 4.18-C Utah State Plan, Attachment 4.19-B

[Social Security Act, §§ 1927\(d\)\(2\) and 1927\(k\)\(3\)](#)

[§ 1935](#)

[42 CFR 447.52\(e\)](#)

[42 CFR 455.410](#)

[42 U.S.C. §§ 1396b \(i\)\(23\) ;1396r-8; 1396r-8\(g\)\(2\)\(A\)](#)

[UCA Title 26, Chapter 18, Part 2 UCA 58-17b-606 Utah Administrative Code R414-60](#)