

PACE

PROVIDER BULLETIN

December 3, 2015

2016 EDIT ENHANCEMENTS

METFORMIN

Guidelines from the American Diabetes Association/European Association for the Study of Diabetes (ADA/EASD) and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/American College of Endocrinology (AACE/ACE) recommend early initiation of metformin as a first-line drug for monotherapy and combination therapy for patients with T2DM. Metformin, if not contraindicated and if tolerated, is the preferred initial pharmacological agent for type 2 diabetes.

Based on this recommendation, **effective Monday, January 4, 2016**, *unless a trial of metformin is in the cardholder's PACE claim's history*, new claims for medications **OTHER THAN INSULIN** that are in the diabetic class of drugs will be denied with NCPDP error 75 accompanied with the message, "Patient does not have required drug in history". **NOTE:** These denials will occur even if the primary plan processes and/or pays the claim.

PPI's

In 2016, beginning with PPI's, PACE will begin to coordinate with Part D primary plan's formularies. The result will be that the cardholder must abide by the primary plan's formulary. This coordination will expand to all Part D plan Error 70 claims in the coming months.

Effective Monday, February 1, 2016, claims rejected by a Part D primary payer with NCPDP Error 70, "Product/Service Not Covered—Plan Benefit Exclusions" will also be denied by PACE.

IMPORTANT:

- Claims rejected by the primary plan with NCPDP Error 70 will be rejected by PACE with the same Error 70. Messaging will be returned indicating that the primary plan's formulary is to be followed.
- Cardholders wanting a PPI not covered by the primary plan's formulary must appeal the denial to the Part D plan.
- Most affected PPI's: (for Partner Plans): **pantoprazole, *esomeprazole magnesium/esomeprazole strontium, *lansoprazole, rabeprazole and 40 mg omeprazole.*
** these drugs also incurred a high denial rate by non-partner Part D plans*

Questions may be directed to Provider Services at 1-800-835-4080.