

PACE

PROVIDER BULLETIN

October 29, 2018

NEW EDIT CRITERIA

MAXIMUM DURATION IMPLEMENTATION for BENZODIAZEPINES AND SEDATIVE HYPNOTICS

**Effective Thursday November 29, 2018,
These medications are only FDA approved for short-term use.**

1. **Benzodiazepines** (alprazolam, lorazepam, clonazepam, diazepam, chlordiazepoxide, oxazepam, clorazepate): reimbursement will be limited to a 21-day course of therapy every 30 days. (Note: Current cardholders with a history showing 180 days of use in the past 210 days qualify for grandfathering. Grandfathering is drug and dose specific.)
 2. **Sedative hypnotics** (temazepam, zaleplon, zolpidem immediate release products including the spray): reimbursement will be limited to a 15-day course of therapy every 30 days. (Note: Current cardholders with a history showing 90 days of use in the past 120 days qualify for grandfathering. Grandfathering is drug and dose specific.)
- Day supply accumulation occurs across the class of medication; it is not medication or dose specific.
 - PACE will no longer reimburse for these products as the secondary or tertiary payer if the Program's Maximum Duration Edit is exceeded. Claims will deny with NCPDP error 76 "Plan Limitations Exceeded" accompanied by the transaction message "maximum duration exceeded."
 - A Medical Exception for the "Maximum Duration Edit" ***may*** be granted upon request. Medical Exceptions are NOT backdated.
 - If an override is approved for these edits, PACE will no longer reimburse for a quantity greater than 100 doses or a days supply of greater than 30 for these medications. There are no overrides for a greater quantity or days supply.

*In cases in which the Patient Responsibility is equal to or less than the calculated copay and the Program's reimbursement is \$Ø, the claim will be accepted to provide a more complete medication history.

IMPORTANT

Providers are reminded that it is their responsibility, as stated in the Provider Agreement, to submit and resolve submission errors **PRIOR TO** dispensing. Cardholders cannot be billed for delivered or mailed prescriptions before error resolution if the claim fails the Maximum Duration Edit.

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