



ADVISORY

No. 210

April 7, 2020

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Temporary Non-Enforcement of Medical Assistance Pharmacy Preauthorization Requirements

On April 6, 2020, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) issued guidance related to non-enforcement of preauthorization requirements during the state of emergency for antibiotic liquids, enteral nutritional products, and non-preferred drugs, for the Maryland Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Program (see [COVID-19 - #13 - Temporary Non-Enforcement of Medical Assistance Pharmacy Preauthorization Requirements](#)).

The guidance also clarifies the changes that the Program is making to the policy for the 72-hour supply of a prescribed drug in emergency situations as follows:

During the state of emergency, the Maryland Medicaid FFS Program will permit prescribed drugs dispensed in an emergency to be filled with up to a 14-day supply, if the prescriber is not able to obtain the necessary preauthorization due to the COVID-19 situation. Maryland Medicaid will not enforce the 72-hour supply limitation for prescribed drugs filled during an emergency. This policy will not apply to controlled dangerous substances or high cost drugs, which will continue to be limited to a 72- hour supply.

In order to obtain this 14-day emergency override, please call Conduent at 1-800-932-3918.

This ADVISORY supersedes [ADVISORY No. 207](#)

For more information related to all the Medicaid Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Updates, please visit: <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/home.aspx>

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS) has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**.

To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations.

It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via MDH, please contact the OPS representative at 410-767-1455.