



**To:** Georgia Health Partners  
**From:** CareSource® Pharmacy Department  
**Subject:** Georgia Medicaid Short-Acting Opioid Limits for Acute Pain  
**Date:** 06/15/2018

**Attention Health Partners:**

On 07/15/2018, CareSource will be implementing a change to criteria and quantity limits for opioids for members with acute pain. There are conditions that are exempt from the limits above including cancer related pain, palliative care, end-of-life or hospice care, sickle cell disease, severe burns, traumatic crushing of tissue, amputation, and major orthopedic surgery. There are instances where you may need to submit a prior authorization indicating the member has one of the conditions that are exempt.

The new limits that will be implemented are:

Effective July 15, 2018

- Maximum 7 day supply on prescriptions for a treatment naïve patient\*
- Maximum, cumulative 14 day supply in a 45 day period for a treatment naïve patient\*
- Maximum average 90 morphine equivalent dose (MED) per day for both opiate naïve\* and chronic utilizers

Effective October 1, 2018

- Maximum average 60 morphine equivalent dose (MED) per day for both opiate naïve\* and chronic utilizers

\*CareSource defines a treatment naïve patient as a member who has been prescribed less than a 60 day supply of opioids within the last 365 days.

A prior authorization form specific to opioids is available

<https://www.caresource.com/providers/georgia/medicaid/patient-care/pharmacy/>.

We recognize each patient is unique and we appreciate your partnership in making this a successful transition. We are here to help you with any questions. Call the CareSource Pharmacy Services Department at 1-855-202-1058 and follow the prompts to Pharmacy. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time.

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