



Network Notification

Date: September 16, 2011

Number: OH-P-2011-42

To: Ohio Providers

From: CareSource

Subject: Prescription Drug Coverage Changing for Member of Ohio Medicaid

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

Effective October 1, 2011, The Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS) will make changes to the administration of prescription drug coverage for all Medicaid Managed Care enrollees. Pharmacy benefits will once again be administered through CareSource and other Ohio Managed Care Plans (MCPs). Additional information about this change is available at www.jfs.ohio.gov and at www.ohiohealthcarehome.com.

We expect this change to result in improved medication adherence and appropriate controlled substance usage by our members. Ohio's MCPs collaborated with Ohio Medicaid to create a more standardized formulary and a single set of utilization-management processes, making it easier for providers to work with all of Ohio's managed care plans.

Changes:

As of this effective date, CareSource will pay for prescription drugs and certain prescription medical supplies such as diabetic supplies, inhaler spacers, peak flow meters, syringes, needles, alcohol wipes, and condoms.

Throughout September, all CareSource members will be issued new Member ID cards to reflect the change being made by Ohio Medicaid. Members will be able to use the new ID cards to get prescriptions filled at the pharmacy and to get other health care through CareSource, starting October 1.

Transition Period for Continuity of Care:

A transition period will be in effect beginning October 1 to ensure continuity of care for our members. For claims within the specified transition period, CareSource members will be able to continue to receive medications that were previously filled under the Medicaid fee for service (FFS) program.

Transition Period Schedule

- 30 days for controlled substances, e.g., narcotic analgesics (through 10/31/2011)
- 120 days for antipsychotics/antidepressants (through 1/31/2012)
- 90 days for all other Medicaid covered medications (through 12/31/2011)

Please Note: Infertility drugs, weight loss drugs, cosmetic and erectile dysfunction medications are not covered by Ohio Medicaid or CareSource.

After the transition period, CareSource prescribing providers may need to request prior authorization when applicable from CareSource for the patient to continue to receive certain medications. Members and providers will be notified in advance of the need for prior authorization.

Prior Authorization Requests:

To request a medication prior authorization (when applicable) on or after October 1, contact CareSource's Pharmacy Department at 1-800-488-0134 or fax your request to 1-866-930-0019.

For your convenience, our [Preferred Drug List](#) and [Drugs that require Prior Authorization](#) list are available on our website at www.caresource.com.