



Provided as a Client Service by Healthcare Solutions' Clinical Pharmacy Team

Work Loss Data Institute: ODG Change of formulary status of Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin (morphine sulfate controlled-release tablets)

Background:

The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI-DWC) gave notice to system participants that Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin (morphine sulfate controlled-release tablets) are moving from a 'Y' to 'N' status per changes in Appendix A of the *ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary* -- effective February 1, 2016¹.

Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin (morphine sulfate controlled-release tablets) are long-acting opioids indicated for pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock long-term treatment with an opioid.

Impact to our Customers:

For Texas system participants, 'N' status medications require pre-authorization per TDI-DWC rules. There is no grandfathering period and preauthorization of the two medications will be required on February 1, 2016.

Healthcare Solutions' Action Plan:

In order to support our clients, the following steps will be taken by Healthcare Solutions:

- All TX-ODG formularies will be updated to reflect the medications status changes on February 1, 2016
- Healthcare Solutions will identify current claimants (sixty days prior to the rule effective date) to assess potential disruption and provide the claimant list to our customers
- If requested from our customers, Healthcare Solutions will send notice to the prescribers of the change in status of the two medications, sixty days in advance of the rules effective date. The letter is a reminder to the prescribers to either move their patients to other medications or initiate the preauthorization process
- As of February 1, 2016, these medications will not process without preauthorization

For questions regarding this eAlert, or to learn more about our Clinical Rx Services, please contact your dedicated Account Executive.

Sources:

¹<https://www.tdi.state.tx.us/WC/dm/documents/ndrugm1015.pdf>

Healthcare Solutions' clinical pharmacist team actively monitors and communicates timely news and announcements from the FDA affecting prescription drug management. We are committed to notifying you of important information as well as offering consultation on how these updates may impact your claimants and pharmacy management program.

Disclaimer

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