

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy Operations	DOCUMENT NAME: Continuity of Care Pharmacy
PAGE: 1 of 2	REPLACES DOCUMENT:
APPROVED DATE: 9/27/2017	RETIRED:
EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/2018	REVIEWED/REVISED:
PRODUCT TYPE: ALL	REFERENCE NUMBER: PA.PHARM.01

SCOPE:

PA Health & Wellness (PHW) Health Plan Pharmacy Department

PURPOSE:

To define PHW Health Plan's process for ensuring the appropriate, safe, and effective transition of medications, when applicable, for new participants on a prescription medication not on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) to a prescription medication on the PDL. Includes continuity of care for medications on the PDL that require prior authorization.

POLICY:

PHW will honor approved medication authorizations in place at the time a participant over the age of 21 transitions from FFS or from another MCO for sixty (60) calendar days. The Plan will provide information to participants and providers regarding the authorization process in the event the participant or provider wishes to request continued authorization of a product not listed on the PDL.

The Plan will honor prior authorizations for participants under age 21 until the end of the time period previously authorized by the other plan subject to documentation. The Plan will honor ongoing prescriptions that the participant previously received without any prior authorization required for a period of sixty (60) calendar days when a participant under the age of 21 transitions from FFS or from another MCO.

PROCEDURE:

1. For new participants who are currently on prescription medications, the point of sale (POS) system will automatically allow up to a maximum of a 60-day supply. PHW Health Plan will notify the prescribing provider and the participant that the participant has filled a prescription not on the PDL and will recommend the switch to a PDL agent.
2. If the provider wishes to keep the participant on the current non-PDL medication, the provider should submit an authorization request to Envolve Pharmacy Solutions for an exception as outlined in EPS.PHARM.24. The request will be reviewed based on the criteria established by the P&T Committee as well as any specific clinical information that the prescriber has submitted.
3. In certain situations the POS system may not automatically allow the 60-day supply. In those situations the prescriber or pharmacist can contact Envolve Pharmacy Solutions for an override. All participants who have previously been on the medication, as verified by the prescriber or pharmacist, will be given an override.
 - a. If the pharmacy or prescriber can verify the current expiration date of the authorization that same date will be entered into the system.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy Operations	DOCUMENT NAME: Continuity of Care Pharmacy
PAGE: 2 of 2	REPLACES DOCUMENT:
APPROVED DATE: 9/27/2017	RETIRED:
EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/2018	REVIEWED/REVISED:
PRODUCT TYPE: ALL	REFERENCE NUMBER: PA.PHARM.01

- b. If the pharmacy or prescriber does not know the current expiration date of the authorization if the medication is on the PDL an authorization will be given for one year. If the medications is not on the PDL it will be given a 60 day authorization.

REFERENCES:

EPS.PHARM.24 Continuity of Care
PA Medical Assistance Bulletin # 99-03-13
PA Medical Assistance Bulletin # 99-96-01

ATTACHMENTS:

DEFINITIONS:

REVISION	DATE

The electronic approval retained in Centene's P&P management software is considered equivalent to a physical signature.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL

Director of Pharmacy: _____ *Approval on file* _____

Medical Director: _____ *Approval on file* _____