



## Clinical Policy: Smoking Cessation Products

Reference Number: PHW.PDL.040

Effective Date: 01/01/2020

Last Review Date: 09/01/2019

[Revision Log](#)

### Policy/Criteria

*Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.*

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with PA Health and Wellness® that Smoking Cessation Products are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

### I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Smoking Cessation Products

#### A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

Prescriptions for Smoking Cessation Products that meet the following conditions must be prior authorized.

1. A prescription for a non-preferred Smoking Cessation Product regardless of the quantity prescribed.
2. A prescription for a preferred Smoking Cessation Product with a prescribed quantity that exceeds the quantity limit.

#### B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a non-preferred Smoking Cessation Products, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the recipient:

1. Has a documented history of therapeutic failure, a contraindication to or intolerance of the preferred products

**OR**

2. Does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above, but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.
3. In addition, if a prescription for either a preferred or non-preferred Smoking Cessation Product is in a quantity that exceeds the quantity limit, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in PA.CP.PMN.59 Quantity Limit Override.

#### C. Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guidelines in Section B. above, to assess the medical necessity of the request for a prescription for a non-preferred Smoking Cessation Product. If the guidelines in Section B are met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guidelines are not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.

**D. Approval Duration: 12 months**

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date
Policy created	01/01/2020