MO HealthNet Pharmacy

Select Oral Benzodiazepine Clinical Edit

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SmartPA Rules Engine

Preferred Drug List (PDL) Edits
- Contain preferred and non-preferred agents and may have clinical criteria

Clinical Edits
- Contain clinical criteria, dosage limitations, and other criteria as needed

Fiscal Edits
- Criteria is limited to dose unit optimization and refill too soon limits

Criteria is posted on MO HealthNet website and reviewed at the Drug Prior Authorization and the Drug Utilization Review Committee meetings on an annual basis at the quarterly meetings
- Also may be reviewed by Rare Disease Advisory Committee if disease impacts <200,000 persons in United States
SmartPA Rules Engine

- 6 million claims evaluated by SmartPA
- 587k claims denied at Point of Sale (10%)
- 85k claims result in call to Pharmacy HD (14.5% of denied claims)
- 18k prior authorization requests denied (21% of requests, 0.3% of total claims submitted)
Benzodiazepines

Examples: Xanax® (alprazolam), Librium® (chlordiazepoxide), Klonopin® (clonazepam), Tranxene® (clorazepate), Valium® (diazepam), Ativan® (lorazepam), Serax® (oxazepam)

**Common Uses**
- Anxiolytic
- Sedative
- Anticonvulsant
- Muscle Relaxant

**Possible Serious Adverse Events**
- Cognitive Effects
- Physical Dependence
- Possible Birth Defects
- Impaired Psychomotor Speed
- Increased Risk of Falls
Benzodiazepines – Why Edit Now?

Common Issues seen in MO HealthNet Participant profiles

• Supratherapeutic doses
• Multiple benzos concurrently
• Dangerous combinations (Benzo + Opioid + Antipsychotic)
  • SUPPORT Act
  • Benzodiazepines in combination with opioids results in serious risk including: unusual dizziness or lightheadedness, extreme sleepiness, slowed or difficult breathing, coma, and death. – FDA Black Box Warning
• Participants on benzodiazepine long term as mono therapy
  • No trial of SSRI/SNRI
  • No initial trial of alternative treatments
Select Oral Benzodiazepine Clinical Edit

Implemented August 15, 2019

Key Criteria Highlights:

• Select oral agents only: alprazolam, chlordiazepoxide, clonazepam, clorazepate, diazepam, lorazepam, oxazepam

• Dosage must be within approved limits for all claims
  • Participants with a seizure diagnosis are able to receive higher doses for diazepam, clonazepam or clonazepam

• Claims <4 day supply are only subject to dosage restrictions, no other criteria

• Participants who are benzodiazepine naïve are limited to 15-day fill for first fill
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Key Criteria Highlights:

- Participants who are benzodiazepine naïve (≤30 days in past year)
  - Prior to continued treatment with benzodiazepine the participant must have adequate therapeutic trial of buspirone, doxepin or hydroxyzine (60 days in last year) when treating anxiety

- Participants who have received > 8 weeks of benzodiazepine
  - Adequate trial of SSRI or SNRI in the last 6 months OR
  - Compliance to prescribed benzodiazepine therapy OR
  - Diagnosis of seizure disorder – Diazepam, Clonazepam or Clorazepate only

- Participants receiving Klonopin Wafer
  - Age < 13 years of age OR history of generic clonazepam oral tablets in last year
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Key Criteria Highlights:

• Participants not meeting any approval criteria will be denied pending further review

• Participants receiving more than 1 benzodiazepine will receive a denial pending further review

• Participants receiving any combination of > 3 of the following drug classes concurrently will be subject to monitoring and possible further review in the future
  • Antipsychotics, Benzodiazepines, Opiate Dependence Agents, Opioids, and/or Sedative Hypnotics
Responding to Stakeholder Feedback

Since implementation several improvements have been made:

- Lookback for multiple benzodiazepines changed from last 90 days to 45 days
- Increased the maximum units per day for clorazepate from 3 to 4 daily
- Removed claims of less than 4 day supply from lookback of multiple benzodiazepine check
- Modified lookback for compliance from 4 out of 5 prior months to 4 out of 6 prior months
- Added clorazepate to list of agents approved for seizures
- Multiple benzodiazepines each for seizure disorder will no longer require an attestation form

If you have additional feedback it will be considered for incorporation into the clinical edit
Use of Multiple Agents – SUPPORT Act

Utilization of Multiple Classes of Medications

Analyzed Classes: Opioids, Benzodiazepines, Antipsychotics

MO HealthNet Participants on Benzodiazepine and Opioid Concurrently by State Fiscal Year

- Concurrent Use of Benzo and Opioid
- Participants on Benzodiazepine
- Participants on Opioids
Use of Multiple Agents – SUPPORT Act

Utilization of Multiple Classes of Medications

Analyzed Classes: Opioids, Benzodiazepines, Antipsychotics

MO HealthNet Participants on Antipsychotic and Opioid Concurrently by State Fiscal Year