



Oregon

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To: Prescribing Providers and Pharmacies
From: Jean S. Phillips, Interim Deputy Administrator
Division of Medical Assistance Programs



Subject: PA on prescriptions for sedatives

DMAP previously informed you that on March 15, 2007, we would start requiring prior authorization (PA) for sedatives. That date was subsequently delayed to October 1, 2007. The Oregon Health Plan does not cover treatment for uncomplicated insomnia. DMAP may pay for sleep aids with prior authorization (PA) if the insomnia is associated with certain other health conditions (*e.g.*, depression, bi-polar disease) that are covered on Oregon Health Services Commission's Prioritized List. The following will happen beginning October 1:

- DMAP will require PA for certain sedatives in order to ensure that prescriptions are for conditions currently covered on the Prioritized List. The sedatives affected include non-benzodiazepines (*e.g.*, eszopiclone, ramelteon, zaleplon).
- DMAP will continue to require PA for more than 15 doses per 30 days for benzodiazepines (*e.g.*, temazepam, triazolam, flurazepam, quazempam, estazolam).
- DMAP will not pay for concurrent use of two different sedatives in the same month.
- Prescribing providers who currently treat patients, or who begin to treat patients, with newer sedative hypnotics must request a PA for continued treatment. A 60-day transition period for current patients allows more time for PA requests to process and to avoid therapy disruption.

Requesting PAs

Prescribing providers may delegate any licensed medical personnel in their offices to call the Help Desk at the First Health Managed Access Program (MAP) to request PA at: 800-344-9180; fax number: 800-250-6950. The prescription PA form is available at the end of the Pharmaceutical Services Supplemental Information online at www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/healthplan/guides/pharmacy/rxsupp0807.pdf.

Questions? Contact Provider Services: 800-336-6016 or e-mail dmap.providerservices@state.or.us.

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