



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Human Services Division of Medical Assistance Programs

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January 9, 2007

To: Prescribing Providers and Pharmacies

From: Allison Knight, Assistant Manager  
DMAP Policy and Planning Section

Subject: PA on prescriptions for sedatives



On March 16, 2007, DMAP will start requiring prior authorization (PA) for sedatives. 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.

- DMAP will start requiring 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.*, zolpidem 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 no longer 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. Their phone number is 1-800-344-9180 and the fax number is 1-800-250-6950. 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/rxsupp0107.pdf](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/healthplan/guides/pharmacy/rxsupp0107.pdf).

**Questions?** Contact Provider Services: 1-800-336-6016 or via e-mail [dmap.providerservices@state.or.us](mailto:dmap.providerservices@state.or.us).

DMAP CU Jan 07-003

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