

All MCOs: New Prospective Claims Processing Edit in Response to the TSBP Emergency Rule 291.30

Background:

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy (TSBP) adopted Emergency Rule [§291.30](#) on March 20, 2020, regarding dispensing prescriptions for Chloroquine, Hydroxychloroquine, Mefloquine, or Azithromycin to ensure appropriate use and prevent stockpiling.

According to TSBP, the rule does not prevent a physician from prescribing one of these drugs for an off-label use, including patients with a COVID-19 diagnosis. Additionally, the rule does not apply to a prescription issued for a person already established on the medication for treatment of conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis or lupus.

Key Details:

Texas Medicaid implemented a prospective claims processing edit for chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, and mefloquine due to concerns regarding stockpiling, safety, risks for toxicity, and inappropriate use of these medications. The following prospective claims edit was implemented in FFS effective April 3:

- Any claim with a date of service prior to March 23 is not subject to medication limitations related to TSBP Rule 291.30.
- Any claim on or after March 23 is subject to the new adjudication rules:
 - Drug hierarchy guidelines for this new edit includes the following GCNs: 42900, 42890, 42891, 42940.
 - People enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP receiving drugs from one of four the GCNs in the past year are not subject to new adjudication rules.
 - Members can receive up to 185-day supply along with 11 refills, as written by the prescriber.
 - On or after March 23, members who have not had one of the four GCNs in the past year are limited to a 14-day supply and no refills. If the day supply is greater than 14 or refills are indicated, the claim will reject.

- Adjudication rejection edits are configured to allow for begin/end date of edit.

Action:

MCOs must instruct PBMs to implement the new prospective claims processing edits in their pharmacy claims processing system as soon as possible **but no later than April 20.**

Contact:

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