



Prescription Limit Provider Guidance

What is Alabama Medicaid's new prescription limit policy?

- ❖ **Effective October 1, 2013**, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will phase in a prescription limit for an effective date of **January 1, 2014**.
- ❖ The number of outpatient pharmacy prescriptions will be limited for **five total drugs (including up to four brands)** per month per adult recipient.
- ❖ Medications in the Maintenance Supply Program will only count towards the prescription limit in the month in which it is filled.
- ❖ Effective **January 1, 2014**, prescription claims that exceed the four brand/five total limit will be rejected. Allowances will still be allowed for the drug classes listed below. No overrides will be allowed.

Are there any exceptions to the prescription limit?

- ❖ Children under 21 and nursing home recipients are excluded.
- ❖ Allowances will be made for up to 10 prescriptions (brand and/or generic) per month for antipsychotics, antiretrovirals, and anti-epileptic agents.
- ❖ In no case can total prescriptions exceed ten per month per adult recipient.

How should providers prepare for the upcoming changes?

- ❖ Beginning October 1, 2013, informational messages will be sent to pharmacies to alert providers when a prescription limitation would have been triggered.
- ❖ Since maintenance supply medications are only applied to the prescription limit in the month in which they are filled, medications may be "staggered" to allow for more than 5 ongoing prescriptions per month.
- ❖ Effective October 1, 2013, a temporary pharmacy override is available for the 3-month supply. Overrides will be allowed by entering **0000909090** in the prior authorization field. This override should be used to help best coordinate the patient-specific schedule, and will no longer be available after December 31, 2013.
- ❖ Pharmacists and prescribers should work together to coordinate the best medication schedule for each individual recipient.
- ❖ For information regarding the program, visit the Alabama Medicaid website at http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/4.0_Programs/4.5_Pharmacy_Services.aspx.

Contact Information

Provider Call Center (HP): 1-800-688-7989
Alabama Medicaid: 1-334-242-5050

Health Information Designs: 1-800-748-0130
Email questions to: rxinfo@medicaid.alabama.gov

