

Section 5. Reimbursement for Physician Distributed Pharmaceutical Products

A. An employer, their workers' compensation insurance carrier or their designated third-party administrator, may restrict reimbursement for pharmaceutical products to a directed network of preferred pharmaceutical providers as follows:

(1) At any time, when a prescription is obtained other than when from a provider described in Subsections 5(A)(2) and 5(A)(4).

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(2) After a maximum allowable supply of seven (7) days' supply of medication for all Class II drugs and all Class III drugs that contains hydrocodone, when a prescription is obtained by the patient for an acute illness or injury from a provider in an emergency department or a clinicians office.

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(3) After a maximum of thirty (30) days' supply of medication for all other drugs not described in Subsections 5 (A) (2).

(4) After a maximum allowable supply of thirty (30) days' medication, when a prescription is distributed by the hospital provider to the patient upon discharge from in-patient care.

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(5) Nothing in this section shall apply to pharmaceutical products dispensed for in-patient hospital care.

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B. Physician distributed pharmaceutical products shall be limited to the initial treatment provider only and reimbursable for no more than a first fill within fourteen (14) days from the date of first treatment for the injury or illness.

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(1) Notwithstanding this restriction, reasonable exceptions to this policy would be appropriate in the following situations:

a. The injured worker does not have access to a retail pharmacy within 20 miles of the patients' home or work address.

b. Emergency treatment where the injured worker would be placed at higher risk if medications did not begin immediately upon departure from physician's office.

C. Medications dispensed either after the initial visit or greater than fourteen (14) days' post-initial treatment, must meet all the following conditions:

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(1) A licensed pharmacist must dispense the medications.

(2) It must be in a pharmacy setting which is accessible to the general public.

D. Medications dispensed shall conform to dosages which are widely available to the general public.