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North Carolina Medicaid Pharmacy Newsletter

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Cost of Dispensing Survey

NC Medicaid recently completed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) mandated cost of dispensing (COD) survey for North Carolina Medicaid enrolled pharmacies. Myers and Stauffer LC performed the survey of pharmacy COD, consistent with CMS guidelines, on behalf of NC Medicaid.

North Carolina pharmacies, which were actively participating in the Medicaid program between Jan. 1, 2019, and April 30, 2020, were surveyed, with a 43.2% response rate. The findings of the survey were consistent with the 2015 survey; therefore, no changes will be made to the professional dispensing fee at this time.

As a reminder, the five Medicaid Managed Care health plans have opted to pay a flat rate of \$10.24 for all pharmacy claims billed through the managed care plans. This will occur with managed care claims effective July 1, 2021. All NC Medicaid Direct (traditional fee-for-service) claims will continue to be paid utilizing the tiered payment model, designed to incentivize dispensing of preferred generics and brands.

The COVID-19 relief increase of 5% added to the dispensing fee per claim will remain in effect until notified by the Department.

Transition to Medicaid Managed Care

Standard Plans and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (ECBI) Tribal Option are scheduled to go live July 1, 2021, while Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disability (I/DD) Tailored Plans are scheduled to launch July 1, 2022. Until that time, NC Medicaid will continue to operate under the current fee-for-service model administered by the Department.

For the latest information, tools and other resources to help providers transition to Medicaid Managed Care, please visit the [Provider Playbook](#). Visit the Provider Playbook often as resources will be added as they become available.

Preferred Brands with Non-Preferred Generics on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) Current as of Jan. 31, 2021

Brand Name	Generic Name
Actiq 1200 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 1200 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 1600 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 1600 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 200 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 200 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 400 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 400 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 600 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 600 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 800 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 800 mcg Lozenges
Adderall XR 10 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 10 mg
Adderall XR 15 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 15 mg
Adderall XR 20 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 20 mg
Adderall XR 25 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 25 mg
Adderall XR 30 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 30 mg
Adderall XR 5 mg	Amphetamine Salt Combo ER 5 mg
Advair 100-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 100-50
Advair 250-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 250-50
Advair 500-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 500-50
Aggrenox 25 mg-200 mg Capsule	Aspirin-Dipyridamole 25mg-200 mg Capsule
Alphagan P 0.15% Drops	Brimonidine P 0.15% Drops
Amitiza 8 mcg Capsule	Lubiprostone 8 mcg Capsule
Amitiza 24 mcg Capsule	Lubiprostone 24 mcg Capsule
Apriso ER 0.375 Gram Capsule	Mesalamine 0.375 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 10mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 10 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 15mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 15 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 20mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 20 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 30mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 30 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 40mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 40 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 50mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 50 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 60mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 60 mg Capsule
Bethkis 300 mg/4 ml Ampule	Tobramycin Solution 300 mg/4 ml Ampule
Butrans 10 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 10 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 15 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 15 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 20 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 20 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 5 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 5 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 7.5 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 7.5 mcg/hr Patch
Catapres-TTS 1 Patch	Clonidine 0.1 mg/day Patch
Catapres-TTS 2 Patch	Clonidine 0.2 mg/day Patch
Catapres-TTS 3 Patch	Clonidine 0.3 mg/day Patch
Canasa 1,000 mg Suppository	Mesalamine 1,000 mg Suppository

Cipro 10% Suspension	Ciprofloxacin 500 mg/5 ml Suspension
Cipro 5% Suspension	Ciprofloxacin 250 mg/5 ml Suspension
Ciprodex Otic Suspension	Ciprofloxacin/Dexamethasone Suspension
Clobex 0.005% Shampoo	Clobetasol 0.005% Shampoo
Concerta 18 mg tab	Methylphenidate ER 18 mg
Concerta 27 mg tab	Methylphenidate ER 27 mg
Concerta 36 mg tab	Methylphenidate ER 36 mg
Concerta 54 mg tab	Methylphenidate ER 54 mg
Copaxone 20 mg/ml Syr	Glatiramer 20 mg/ml Syr
Copaxone 40 mg/ml Syr	Glatiramer 40 mg/ml Syr
Derma-Smoothe-FS Body Oil	Fluocinolone 0.01% Body Oil
Derma-Smoothe-FS Scalp Oil	Fluocinolone 0.01% Scalp Oil
Dermotic Otic Drops	Fluocinolone 0.01% Otic Drops
Diastat 2.5 mg Pedi System	Diazepam 2.5 mg Rectal Gel System
Diastat Acudial 12.5-15-20	Diazepam 20 mg Rectal Gel System
Diastat Acudial 5-7.5-10	Diazepam 10 mg Rectal Gel System
Diclegis 10-10 DR	Doxylamine Succinate/Pyridoxine HCL 10-10 DR
Differin 0.1% Cream	Adapalene 0.1% Cream
Differin 0.3% Gel Pump	Adapalene 0.3% Gel Pump
Dovonex 0.005% Cream	Calcipotriene 0.005% Cream
E.E.S 200	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 200 mg/5 ml
Elidel 1% Cream	Pimecrolimus 1% Cream
Emend 40 mg Capsule	Aprepitant 40 mg Capsule
Emend 80 mg Capsule	Aprepitant 80 mg Capsule
Epiduo Gel	Adapalene/Benzoyl Peroxide Gel
EryPed 200 mg/5 ml Suspension	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 200 mg/5 ml
EryPed 400 mg/5 ml Suspension	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 400 mg/5 ml
Exelon 13.3 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 13.3 mg/24 hr Patch
Exelon 4.6 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 4.6 mg/24 hr Patch
Exelon 9.5 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 9.5 mg/24 hr Patch
Fazaclo 100 mg ODT	Clozapine 100 mg ODT
Fazaclo 12.5 mg ODT	Clozapine 12.5 mg ODT
Focalin 10 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 10 mg
Focalin 2.5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 2.5 mg
Focalin 5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 5 mg
Focalin XR 10 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 10 mg
Focalin XR 15 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 15 mg
Focalin XR 20 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 20 mg
Focalin XR 25 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 25 mg
Focalin XR 30 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 30 mg
Focalin XR 35 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 35 mg

Focalin XR 40 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 40 mg
Focalin XR 5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 5 mg
Gabitril 12 mg	Tiagabine 12 mg
Gabitril 16 mg	Tiagabine 16 mg
Gabitril 2 mg	Tiagabine 2 mg
Gabitril 4 mg	Tiagabine 4 mg
Glyset 100 mg	Miglitol 100 mg
Glyset 25 mg	Miglitol 25 mg
Glyset 50 mg	Miglitol 50 mg
Humalog 100 units/ml Vial	Insulin Lispro 100 units/ml Vial
Humalog Kwikpen 100 units/ml	Insulin Lispro 100 units/ml
Humalog Kwikpen Mix 75-25	Insulin Lispro Mix 75-25
Kitabis Pak 300 mg/5 ml	Tobramycin Pak 300 mg/5 ml
Letairis 10 mg Tablet	Ambrisentan 10 mg Tablet
Letairis 5 mg Tablet	Ambrisentan 5 mg Tablet
Lialda 1.2 gm Tablet	Mesalamine 1.2 gm Tablet
Lotemax 0.5% Eye Drops	Loteprednol 0.5% Eye Drops
Methylin 10 mg/5 ml Soltuion	Methylphenidate 10 mg/5 ml Solution
Methylin 5 mg/5 ml Solution	Methylphenidate 5 mg/5 ml Solution
MetroCream 0.75% Cream	Metronidazole 0.75% Cream
Metrogel Topical 1% Gel	Metronidazole Topical 1% Gel
Metrogel Topical 1% Pump	Metronidazole Topical 1% Gel
Mitigare 0.6 mg capsules	Colchicine 0.6 mg capsules
Natroba 0.9% Topical Susp	Spinosad 0.9% Topical Susp
Nexium DR 10 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 10 mg Packet
Nexium DR 20 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 20 mg Packet
Nexium DR 40 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 40 mg Packet
Niaspan ER 1000 mg Tablets	Niacin ER 1000 mg Tablets
Niaspan ER 500 mg Tablets	Niacin ER 500 mg Tablets
Niaspan ER 750 mg Tablets	Niacin ER 750 mg Tablets
Novolog 100 U/ml Cartridge	Insulin Aspart 100 U/ml Cartridge
Novolog 100 U/ml Flexpen	Insulin Aspart 100 U/ml Pen
Novolog 100 U Vial	Insulin Aspart 100 U Vial
Novolog Mix 70-30 FlexPen	Insulin Aspart Mix 70-30 Pen
Novolog Mix 70-30 Vial	Insulin Aspart Mix 70-30 Vial
Nuvigil 150 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 150 mg tabs
Nuvigil 200 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 200 mg tabs
Nuvigil 250 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 250 mg tabs
Nuvigil 50 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 50 mg tabs
Protopic 0.03% Oint	Tacrolimus 0.03% Oint
Protopic 0.1% Oint	Tacrolimus 0.1% Oint

Protonix 40 mg Suspension	Pantoprazole 40 mg Suspension
Provigil 100 mg	Modafinil 100 mg
Provigil 200 mg	Modafinil 200 mg
Pulmicort 0.25 mg/2 ml	Budesonide 0.25 mg/2 ml
Pulmicort 0.5 mg/2 ml	Budesonide 0.5 mg/2 ml
Pulmicort 1 mg/2 ml	Budesonide 1.0 mg/2 ml
Retin-A 0.025% Cream	Tretinoin 0.025% Cream
Retin-A 0.05% Cream	Tretinoin 0.05% Cream
Retin-A 0.1% Cream	Tretinoin 0.1% Cream
Retin-A Gel 0.01%	Tretinoin Gel 0.01%
Retin-A Gel 0.025%	Tretinoin Gel 0.025%
Retin-A Micro 0.04% Gel	Tretinoin Micro 0.04% Gel
Retin-A Micro 0.1% Gel	Tretinoin Micro 0.1% Gel
Retin-A Micro Pump 0.04% Gel	Tretinoin Micro Pump 0.04% Gel
Retin-A Micro Pump 0.1% Gel	Tretinoin Micro Pump 0.1% Gel
Sabril 500 mg Powder Packet	Vigabatrin 500 mg Powder Packet
Suboxone 12-3 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 12-3 mg Film
Suboxone 2-0.5 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 2-0.5 mg Film
Suboxone 4-1 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 4-1 mg Film
Suboxone 8 mg-2 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 8mg-2mg Film
Suprax 100 mg/5 ml Susp	Cefixime 100 mg/5 ml Susp
Suprax 200 mg/5 ml Susp	Cefixime 200 mg/5 ml Susp
Suprax 400 mg Capsule	Cefixime 400 mg Capsule
Symbicort 160-4.5 mcg Inhaler	Budesonide-Formoterol 160-4.5 mcg Inhaler
Symbicort 80-4.5 mcg Inhaler	Budesonide-Formoterol 80-4.5 mcg Inhaler
Symbyax 12-50	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 12-50
Symbyax 3-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 3-25
Symbyax 6-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 6-25
Symbyax 6-50	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 6-50
Tecfidera DR 120 mg Capsule	Dimethyl Fumarate 120 mg Capsule
Tecfidera DR 240 mg Capsule	Dimethyl Fumarate 240 mg Capsule
Tecfidera Starter Pack	Dimethyl Fumarate Starter Pack
Tegretol 100 mg/5 ml Susp	Carbamazepine 100 mg/5 ml Susp
Tegretol 200 mg Tab	Carbamazepine 200 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 100 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 100 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 200 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 200 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 400 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 400 mg Tab
Tekturna 150 mg Tablet	Aliskiren 150 mg Tablet
Tekturna 300 mg Tablet	Aliskiren 300 mg Tablet
TobraDex Eye Drops	Tobramycin-Dexamethasone Drops
Tacleer 125 mg Tablet	Bosentan 125 mg tablet

Tracleer 62.5 mg Tablet	Bosentan 62.5 mg tablet
Transderm-Scop 1.5 mg/3 day	Scopolamine 1 mg/3 Day Patch
Travatan Z 0.004% Eye Drop	Travoprost 0.004% Eye Drop
Vagifem 10 mcg Vaginal Tab	Estradiol 10 mcg Vaginal Insert
Vesicare 10 mg Tab	Solifenacin Succinate 10 mg Tab

As a reminder, if a brand is preferred with a Non-Preferred generic equivalent, “medically necessary” is NOT needed on the face of the prescription in order for the brand product to be covered. Claims for preferred brands with non-preferred generics will be reimbursed with a generic product dispensing fee. Claims for preferred brands with no generic or preferred brands with preferred generics will be reimbursed with a brand dispensing fee.

When a PDL class has a preferred brand with a non-preferred generic, providers requesting prior approval for the non-preferred generic should give a clinical reason why the beneficiary cannot use the brand.

72-Hour Emergency Supply Available for Pharmacy Prior Authorization Drugs

Pharmacy providers are encouraged to use the 72-hour emergency supply allowed for drugs requiring prior approval. **Federal law requires that this emergency supply be available to Medicaid beneficiaries for drugs requiring prior approval** (Social Security Act, Section 1927, [42 U.S.C. 1396r-8\(d\)\(5\)\(B\)](#)). Use of this emergency supply will ensure access to medically necessary medications.

The system will bypass the prior approval requirement if an emergency supply is indicated. **Use a “3” in the Level of Service field (418-DI) to indicate that the transaction is an emergency fill.**

Note: Copayments will apply and only the drug cost will be reimbursed. There is no limit to the number of times the emergency supply can be used.

Checkwrite Schedule for March 2021

Electronic Cutoff Schedule

Feb. 25, 2021
 March 4, 2021
 March 11, 2021
 March 18, 2021
 March 25, 2021

Checkwrite Date

March 2, 2021
 March 9, 2021
 March 16, 2021
 March 23, 2021
 March 30, 2021

POS claims must be transmitted and completed by 11:59 p.m. on the day of the electronic cutoff date to be included in the next checkwrite.

The 2021 checkwrite schedules for both DHB and DMH/DPH/ORH can be found under the Quick Links on the right side of the [NCTracks Provider Portal](#) home page.

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