



An Information Service of the Division of Health Benefits

## North Carolina Medicaid Pharmacy Newsletter

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### In This Issue...

[American Rescue Plan Act](#)

[Emergency Supply for the Beneficiary Management Lock-In Program-Override  
Reminder](#)

[Medicaid Managed Care Transferring Prior Approvals](#)

[Medicaid Managed Care Pharmacy Billing and Contracting Information](#)

[New Practice Guidelines for Administration of Buprenorphine for Treating OUD](#)

[Reminder Regarding the Naloxone Standing Order](#)

[Preferred Brands with Non-Preferred Generics on the Preferred Drug List \(PDL\)](#)

[72-Hour Emergency Supply Available for Pharmacy Prior Authorization Drugs](#)

[Checkwrite Schedule for July 2021](#)

## **Attention: All Providers American Rescue Plan Act**

The American Rescue Plan Act that was recently enacted includes several changes to COVID-19 Medicaid policy. North Carolina will now be covering all approved COVID-19 vaccines as of March 11, 2021, for the following limited benefit eligibility groups: COVID-19 testing limited benefit group, Family Planning, and women who qualify due to pregnancy. Vaccine providers may bill Medicaid if it is determined that the beneficiary is in one of these limited eligibility groups.

In addition, internal Medicaid review of recently denied COVID-19 vaccine administration claims has led to modification of edits to allow many of these claims to process for payment. **All providers** are encouraged to resubmit previously denied claims for Covid-19 vaccine for possible payment. All rules for payment of the administration of COVID-19 vaccine continue to apply. The date of service will be used to determine payment amount.

Claims are now reimbursable even if originally denied for:

- Vaccine CPT code and vaccine administration code were not both listed on the claim
- Charges were not added to the vaccine administration code
- Beneficiary received only Family Planning Waiver benefits (as of DOS 3/11/2021)
- Second dose of vaccine was billed before the first dose
- Claims are reimbursable for the following scenarios:
  - All eligible providers' taxonomies will be reimbursed for vaccine administration
  - All approved places of service will be eligible for payment

Please note claims may still not pay if the beneficiary has another insurance on file, provider is not enrolled in NC Medicaid, or the ordering provider is not listed on the claim. Please contact the NCTracks help desk for further assistance if needed.

**NCTracks Contact Center: (800) 688-6696**

## **Attention: Pharmacy Providers Emergency Supply for the Beneficiary Management Lock-In Program- Override Reminder**

This is a reminder that the N.C. Medicaid Program will reimburse an enrolled Medicaid pharmacy for up to a four-day supply of a prescription dispensed to a beneficiary locked into a different pharmacy and/or prescriber in response to an emergent situation. The provider will be paid for the drug cost only and the beneficiary is responsible for the appropriate copayment. One emergency occurrence is reimbursed per beneficiary during each year of the two-year lock-in period. For beneficiaries covered in Medicaid Direct, the pharmacy can place a "3" in the Level of Service field (418-DI). For all other Medicaid members enrolled in one of the five Prepaid Health Plans, refer to that member's specific plan for instructions on how to obtain an override for an emergency supply.

## **Medicaid Managed Care Transferring Prior Approvals**

Managed care begins for most North Carolina Medicaid beneficiaries on July 1, 2021. To ensure continuity of care for beneficiaries, The North Carolina Division of Health Benefits will be transferring all active approved medication prior approval files to the beneficiaries' health plans. This will allow the beneficiaries to continue to use their prior approvals with their new plans for

the remainder of the life of the prior approval. Going forward, active prior approvals will be transferred from plan to plan should the beneficiary decide to switch to a different plan.

### **Medicaid Managed Care Pharmacy Billing and Contracting Information**

Beginning July 1, 2021, approximately 1.6 million NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice beneficiaries will transition to having their health care benefits through Medicaid Managed Care Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs). This transition includes the pharmacy benefits of these beneficiaries as well. To be able to serve these beneficiaries that will be enrolled in a PHP after July 1, 2021 a pharmacy must be enrolled as an NC Medicaid provider, in addition to being enrolled with the beneficiary's PHP. Please see below for PHPs that will serve beneficiaries, their pharmacy processing information, and provider contracting information.

<b>Prepaid Health Plan</b>	<b>PBM Processor</b>	<b>BIN Number</b>	<b>PCN</b>	<b>Rx Group Number</b>
AmeriHealth Caritas	PerformRx	019595	PRX00801	N/A
Carolina Complete Health	Involve Rx (back end CVS Health)	004336	MCAIDADV	RX5480
Healthy Blue (BCBS of NC)	IngenioRx (back end CVS Health)	020107	NC	8473
United Healthcare	Optum Rx	610494	4949	ACUNC
WellCare of NC	CVS Health	004336	MCAIDADV	RX8904

For PHP provider contracting information for all five of the PHPs listed above, please visit the following page on the NC Medicaid website:

<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation/health-plans/health-plan-contacts-and-resources>

### **Attention: Pharmacy Providers**

#### **New Practice Guidelines for Administration of Buprenorphine for Treating Opioid Use Disorder**

On January 14, 2021, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that it published *Practice Guidelines for the Administration of Buprenorphine for Treating Opioid Use Disorder*, which was designed to expand access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) by exempting eligible physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse midwives, who are state licensed and registered by the DEA to prescribe controlled substances, an exemption from certain statutory certification requirements related to training, counseling and other ancillary services usually required to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment. The guidance took effect on April 28, 2021. For complete information on this guidance, see

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/04/28/2021-08961/practice-guidelines-for-the-administration-of-buprenorphine-for-treating-opioid-use-disorder>

### **Attention: Pharmacy Providers**

#### **Reminder Regarding the Naloxone Standing Order**

North Carolina's standing order for naloxone, signed by the State Health Director in 2016, authorizes any pharmacist practicing in the state of North Carolina and licensed by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy to dispense naloxone to any person who meets set criteria.

Narcan nasal spray and naloxone (ampule/syringe/vial) are listed as preferred on the North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List for beneficiaries who are at risk of an opioid overdose. NC Medicaid covers Narcan/naloxone through the outpatient pharmacy benefit using either the Naloxone Standing Order or a prescription issued to a beneficiary. As of July 1, 2021, many Medicaid beneficiaries will transition to one of the five Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs). As the pharmacy benefit is identical for members who enroll in a PHP, the plans are required to cover Narcan/naloxone through the outpatient pharmacy benefit using either the Naloxone Standing Order or a prescription issued to a plan member. Pharmacies are encouraged to dispense naloxone when medically appropriate. For more information on the use of naloxone, visit [naloxonesaves.org](http://naloxonesaves.org).

### **Preferred Brands with Non-Preferred Generics on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) Current as of June 1, 2021**

<b>Brand Name</b>	<b>Generic Name</b>
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
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
Androgel Pump	Testosterone Gel Pump
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 80 mg Capsule	Aprepitant 80 mg Capsule
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
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 Jr Kwikpen 100 units/ml	Insulin Lispro Jr 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 Solution	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
ProAir HFA Inhaler	Albuterol HFA Inhaler
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
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 3-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 3-25
Symbyax 6-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 6-25
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
Tracleer 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
Xopenex HFA 45 mcg Inhaler	Levalbuterol Tar HFA 45 mcg Inhaler
Zovirax 5% Cream	Acyclovir 5% Cream
Zovirax 5% Ointment	Acyclovir 5% Ointment

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 July 2021

Electronic Cutoff Schedule	Checkwrite Date
July 1, 2021	July 7, 2021
July 8, 2021	July 13, 2021
July 15, 2021	July 20, 2021
July 22, 2021	July 27, 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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