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| ISSUE DATE April 25, 2014 | EFFECTIVE DATE May 1, 2014 | NUMBER *See Below |
| SUBJECT Prior Authorization of Prescriptions That Exceed Established Quantity Limits/Daily Dose Limits - Pharmacy Services | BY  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs | |

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue updated handbook pages that include instructions on how to request prior authorization of prescriptions for drugs with a quantity that exceeds the established quantity limits/daily dose limits, including the type of medical information needed to evaluate requests for medical necessity.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies and prescribers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program and providing services in the fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system, including pharmacy services to residents of long term care facilities.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Department of Public Welfare (Department) is updating the Requirements for Prior Authorization of Prescriptions for Drugs that Exceed the Quantity Limits/Daily Dose Limits handbook pages to clarify the language related to clinical documentation supporting the higher dose of medication being prescribed. The requirements for prior authorization and clinical review guidelines to determine the medical necessity of prescriptions for drugs with a quantity that exceeds the established quantity limits/daily dose limit are included in the attached updated provider handbook pages.

PROCEDURE:

The procedures for prescribers to request prior authorization of prescriptions for drugs with a quantity that exceeds the established quantity limits/daily dose limits are located in

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|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| *01-14-18 | 09-14-13 | 27-14-11 | 33-14-12 |
| 02-14-11 | 11-14-11 | 30-14-11 | |
| 03-14-14 | 14-14-11 | 31-14-16 | |
| 08-14-14 | 24-14-11 | 32-14-11 | |

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

SECTION I of the Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook. The Department will take into account the elements specified in the clinical review guidelines (which are included in the provider handbook pages in the SECTION II chapter related to Quantity Limits/Daily Dose Limits) in reviewing the prior authorization request to determine medical necessity.

As set forth in 55 Pa. Code § 1101.67(a), the procedures described in the handbook pages must be followed to ensure appropriate and timely processing of prior authorization requests for drugs that require prior authorization.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook - Updated pages](#)

SECTION II
Quantity Limits/Daily Dose Limits