

New York State Managed Medicaid has implemented a State Law that prohibits patients from filling more than 4 opioids in 30 days without a prior approval from their prescriber. As a result of the enactment of Social Services Law section 364-j(26-a), effective October 1, 2016, Medicaid Managed Care providers must require prior authorization for prescriptions of opioid analgesics in excess of four prescriptions in a thirty-day period. Prior authorization will not apply to prescriptions for patients receiving hospice care, prescriptions for patients with a diagnosis of cancer or sickle cell disease, or any other condition or diagnosis for which the Commissioner of Health determines prior authorization is not required. As a provider of Managed Medicaid this may impact a few of our members, and we will be strictly adhering to this new law moving forward. We are focused on putting the safety and wellbeing of members first and are happy to assist in this transition process in any way possible. We can provide education to members and providers about maximizing current analgesic regimens, the role of adding non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to pain management regimens, and whether members should be on alternate therapy if their current pain regimen is not sufficient. Medicaid Fee-for-Service previously implemented such a limit of 4 opioids in 30 days with a prior approval with positive patient outcomes.