



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Department for Medicaid Services

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Prior Authorization Guidance – Effective 2/1/2021

UPDATED 2/3/2021

- Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will not require prior authorizations (PAs) for all **inpatient** Medicaid services provided by Kentucky Medicaid enrolled inpatient hospitals (Provider Type 01). For MCOs, this includes both participating and non-participating providers
- FFS and MCOs will not require PAs for all Medicaid covered **substance use and behavioral health services**
- FFS and MCOs may require a PA for an **outpatient** or other Medicaid service based on their Utilization Management program, except for individuals with a COVID diagnosis. Examples may include durable medical equipment, home health, physical therapy or radiology. Please refer to the FFS or MCO's specific PA guidelines
- PAs will remain in place for all pharmacy benefits and products listed on the **physician administered drug lists**, except for medication assisted treatment (MAT) products (i.e. Sublocade)
- PAs should be lifted for all **preferred drug products** that fall into the below drug classes **IF** an automatic prior authorization process (smartPA) cannot be completed by 2/1/2021. Once the smartPA is created, it may be placed on the below drug classes.
 - Central Nervous System: Anticonvulsants
 - Central Nervous System: Antipsychotics: Second Generation: Second Generation (Atypical) and Injectable
 - Central Nervous System: Stimulants and Related Agents
- Notification requirements will remain in place for inpatient services in order to facilitate care management, COVID reporting/tracking, and discharge planning
- The Concurrent Review process will remain in place for non-COVID diagnoses to support discharge planning, placement of members, care management, and facility capacity
- In order to facilitate provider payment, requirements for prior authorization of **non-Kentucky Medicaid enrolled** providers will remain in place
- FFS and MCOs will continue to monitor for fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA) activity
- This guidance will be in effect through 3/31/2021. DMS will re-evaluate this guidance at the end of February 2021 and give thirty (30) days' notice of any changes