



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF TENNCARE
310 Great Circle Road
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243

August 24, 2016

To: All TennCare Ambulatory Pharmacy Network Providers
Re: Coverage of up to a 91-day supply of insulin products

The purpose of this notice to TennCare pharmacy providers is to clarify the intent of the coverage of up to a 91-day supply of insulin products.

On March 29, 2016, Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 10, Part 2 was amended allowing a pharmacist to “exercise professional judgment to dispense varying quantities of medication per fill up to the total number of dosage units as authorized by the prescriber on the original prescription including any refills, so long as the units dispensed do not exceed a ninety-day supply”. Although pharmacists are allowed by Tennessee Law to fill prescriptions for maintenance medications up to a 90-day supply, TennCare still only covers 31 days supply due to the frequent change in eligibility status of our enrollees.

For insulin products, please note that we allow up to a 91-day supply because of the fact that insulin doses and regimens are individualized, and in many cases, a single bottle of insulin cannot be used by a patient within a 31-day timeframe. Due to individualized dosing, and the inability to break a 10ml vial package, we allow up to a 91-day supply. **At the same time, pharmacists should not automatically provide a 90-day supply simply because the law allows this. TennCare still covers only the least costly amount of the drug necessary to meet the doctor’s prescription.**

Please adhere to the following when dispensing insulin in quantities greater than a 31-day supply (35 days for LTC patients):

- Hard copy prescriptions must always state the dose being used. TennCare does not pay for prescriptions with sigs stating “as directed”.
- If one 10ml vial of insulin or one box of insulin pens lasts greater than 31 days, please transmit the claim for a single vial or box of pens and provide the actual number of days supply greater than 31 days.
- If one 10ml vial of insulin or one box of insulin pens will not last the enrollee 31 days, pharmacy may dispense only the quantity sufficient to last the minimum days over 31.
 - For example, if one vial lasts 12 days, dispense 3 vials to last 36 days, but not 4 vials to last 48 days.

Because we have not clarified our intent in the past, we will not audit pharmacies for filling prescriptions for larger quantities than described above; however we will begin to enforce this interpretation effective September 1, 2016. Any claims found with quantities dispensed contrary to the above description will be subject to recoupment for overbilling.

If any of our network provider pharmacies have any questions regarding any of the information above, please contact us:

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Cc: Magellan Medicaid Administrators, Pharmacy Network Administration