



2010 Program Changes

Due to a change in NYS Law, beginning October 1, 2010 EPIC will no longer cover drugs that are not covered by Part D. It will only cover drugs that are first covered by the members' Medicare drug plan or following denial of coverage by Part D after three levels of appeal have been exhausted. This change will reduce out-of-pocket expenses for members. *Steps may need to be taken by the member, pharmacist and doctor.*

Members:

- Should make sure they know if drugs prescribed are covered by their Part D plan.
- Should ask doctor to change prescription to a covered drug or to pursue an appeal if drug is not covered.
- Will receive up to a 90-day temporary supply of drug after doctor has called EPIC stating an appeal will be pursued.
- Must inform EPIC of the Part D plan final decision and make sure a copy of denial is sent (EPIC fax 1-800-562-1126).

Pharmacists:

- Review any rejected drug claim and contact the Part D plan to see why payment was denied and resolve any billing issues.
- Contact the doctor, if the drug is not covered by the Part D plan, and inquire if another drug can be prescribed that is covered by the Part D plan.
- Inform the doctor that an appeal (a request for coverage determination and two levels of appeal – redetermination and reconsideration) must be pursued if drug is not covered.

Doctors:

- Should evaluate therapeutic alternatives that are covered by Part D; or
- call EPIC Temporary Coverage Request (TCR) Line at 1-800-634-1340 to register intent to initiate an appeal to Part D after October 1.

What to expect

- EPIC will continue to provide secondary coverage for drugs that are first approved by Part D (including when approved through appeal).
- EPIC will continue to cover Part D excluded drugs (e.g. barbiturates, benzodiazepines).
- If the pharmacist is unable to reach the doctor, approval can be obtained to provide a 3-day (72 hr.) supply to the member.
- Member is required to assure that all three levels of appeal are pursued and must provide EPIC with the final Medicare decision if denied.

¿Necesita Ayuda? Llame al 1-800-332-3742