

Security Health Plan drug management program limits access to opioids and benzodiazepines

In addition to the pharmacy point-of-sale claim edits, Security Health Plan (SHP) has a drug management program (DMP) that limits access to opioids and benzodiazepines for patients who are considered to be at-risk for prescription drug abuse.

The goal of a DMP is better care coordination for safer use. Coverage limitations under a DMP can include requiring the patient to obtain these medications from a specified prescriber and/or pharmacy, or implementing an individualized point-of-service pharmacy edit that limits the amount of these medications that will be covered for the patient. The coverage limitation tools will be put in place for 12 months and may be extended for an additional 12 months (total of 24 months).

Potential at-risk patients are identified by opioid use which involves multiple doctors and pharmacies. After Security Health Plan conducts case management with prescribers, and before implementing a coverage limitation tool, the plan will notify the patient in writing. SHP is required to make reasonable efforts to send the prescriber a copy of the letter. After this 30-day time period, if the plan determines based on its review that the patient is at-risk and implements a limitation, it must send the patient a second written notice confirming the specific limitation and its duration.

If SHP decides to limit coverage under a DMP, the patient and their prescriber have the right to appeal the plan's decision. The patient or prescriber should contact the plan for additional information on how to appeal.

If you have any questions regarding the drug management program, please contact Security Health Plan Pharmacy Services at 1-877-873-5611 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or email shprx@securityhealth.org.