

Pharmacy Services Drug Restriction / Benefit Design

Appropriate Use & Safety Edits

Pharmacy Services provides a variety of safety edits to promote the use of the right medication, in the right patient, at the right time for Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc. These edits are routinely updated as new medication entries come to market and in cases of new medication safety alerts to maintain best-in-class safety protocols. The items listed below represent the most recent strategies implemented to improve quality of care and cost containment. It is important to note that this is not a comprehensive list of Pharmacy Services utilization management strategies. For specific medication restriction information, please see [Coordinated Care's Preferred Drug List \(PDL\)](#).

Duplicate Therapy Edits

Restrictions on claims implemented to prevent members from receiving excessive medication regimens within the same, or similar medication class. *Please note members may utilize up to two medications in any classes listed below with an asterisk (*).* Current medication classes with duplicate therapy edits include, but are not limited to:

- ACE Inhibitor/Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARB)
- Benzodiazepines*
- Diabetic Medications
- Muscle Relaxants
- Sedative-Hypnotics
- Selective Serotonin Receptor Inhibitors (SSRI) & Serotonin Norepinephrine Receptor Inhibitors (SNRI)*
- Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCA)
- Other Antidepressants
- Inhaled Steroids
- Long-Acting Beta Agonist
- Long-Acting Muscarinic Antagonist

Buprenorphine/Opioid Edits

Identifies opioid use after the member has begun opioid use disorder treatment with a buprenorphine product. The member should not receive any new opioid prescription after they start buprenorphine. After reviewing the member's medication history, the pharmacist will need to contact the prescriber to determine a further course of action. Current medication classes with step therapy restrictions include, but are not limited to:

- Opioid partial agonist
- Opioids

Teratogenic Edits

Restrictions on claims implemented to prevent female members from receiving potentially harmful medications prior to confirmation of pregnancy status. Messaging is generated for pregnancy X and D drugs.

Safety Edits

Restrictions on claims implemented to prevent members from receiving combination medication regimens that are contraindicated or may be potentially toxic and life threatening. Current medications with safety edits include, but are not limited to:

- Acetaminophen daily dose greater than 4000mg per day