

PROVIDER UPDATE # 20-021

11/17/2020

PROVIDER TYPE: Primary Care Providers Specialty Care Providers
LINE OF BUSINESS: MemorialCare Select Plan to Plan

Memorandum

Date: November 17, 2020

To: Physicians and Office Staff

From: Mark Kroeger

CC: Scott Ferer, M.D., CMO

Re: **Transition of Medi-Cal Pharmacy Benefits to a New Program, Medi-Cal Rx**

Dear Physician and Staff,

Effective January 1, 2021, Medi-Cal pharmacy benefits will be transitioned from MemorialCare Select Health Plan to a state-run program called “Medi-Cal Rx.” Specifically, this includes self-injectable and physician administered medications that are currently the responsibility of MC Select Health Plan (See www.memorialcareselecthealthplan.org/medi-cal-providers). The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will administer the new Medi-Cal Rx program through their contracted vendor Magellan Rx. The MemorialCare Select Medi-Cal managed care plans impacted are Anthem Blue Cross, Health Net, and LA Care.

What is covered in the new Medi-Cal Rx?

- There is no change in the covered benefits
- Will include all pharmacy services billed as pharmacy claims
- Outpatient drugs (prescription and over-the counter), this includes **self-injectables**
- **Physician Administered Drugs or PADs**
- Enteral nutrition products

- Some medical supplies

What is different in the process of obtaining self-injectable medications?

- Providers will no longer be submitting referrals to MC Select Health Plan for review first
- Providers should request self-injectable medications as usual by providing prescriptions of the medications and have the patients go to Homecare Pharmacy or any Medi-Cal participating pharmacy for dispensing.
- The pharmacy will now adjudicate the prescribed medication claims to Magellan Rx ***instead*** of MC Select Health Plan.
- If prior authorizations (PA) are required for the requested medications, the pharmacy will notify you and assist with submitting for utilization reviews through Magellan Rx ***instead*** of MC Select Health Plan.
- If approved, the pharmacy will dispense the medications to the patients.

What is different in the process of obtaining Physician Administered Drugs (PADs)?

- Please see attached PAD drugs list where this will apply.
- Providers will no longer be submitting a referral to MC Select for review first.
- Providers should request PADs by providing a prescription of the medication to Homecare Pharmacy for dispensing.
- The pharmacy will now adjudicate the prescribed medication claim to Magellan Rx ***instead*** of MC Select Health Plan.
- If a prior authorization (PA) is required for the requested medication, the pharmacy will notify you and assist with submitting for utilization review through Magellan Rx ***instead*** of MC Select Health Plan.
- If the referral is approved, Homecare Pharmacy will dispense and deliver the medication to your office for administration.
- Providers can continue to bill MC Select Health Plan for the office visit and administration code.

Can I order PADs on the list from another pharmacy?

- Yes, as long as the pharmacy can bill Magellan Rx and able to deliver the medications to your office.

What do I do with PADs NOT on the list?

- Providers should continue to submit referrals to MC Select Health Plan for medical necessity review. Authorization is based on the health plan clinical coverage policy.
- If approved, providers can bill MC Select Health Plan directly for routine injectables they provide in their offices.

Thank you for your cooperation.

For more information about the transition to Medi-Cal Rx, visit
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pharmacy/Pages/Medi-CalRX.aspx>.

For general questions related to Medi-Cal Rx, please send an email to
RxCarveOut@dhcs.ca.gov.

MemorialCare Select Health Plan is committed to supporting our providers through this pharmacy benefit transition. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at mkroeger@memorialcare.org or at (562)933-1716.

Sincerely,

Mark Kroeger

Executive Director of Managed Care
MemorialCare Select Health Plan