



UPDATES FOR LONG-ACTING OPIOIDS

Effective January 1, 2018

November 28, 2017

Dear Care1st Providers and Staff:

The AHCCCS mandate to require prior authorization on all long acting narcotics remains in place. AHCCCS is making a few changes to the preferred formulary agents, which are outlined below.

✓ **The following changes to the preferred formulary agents are effective 1/1/2018:**

Morphine Sulfate ER

1. Fentanyl Patches
2. Xtampza ER - *NEW*
3. Oxycontin - *REMOVED*
4. Butrans Patches- *REMOVED*
5. Embeda ER
6. Hysingla ER

✓ **Prior authorization required when any of the following apply:**

New prescriptions for long-acting opioid analgesics without cancer diagnosis

✓ **Benzodiazepine interaction safety measures:**

High dose or long-acting or non-preferred narcotics will be denied if the patient is concurrently using a benzodiazepine. Exceptions include:

- Patient has a seizure diagnosis
- 3-6 month transition plan submitted to eliminate concurrent benzodiazepine use with narcotics

Any request for patients to maintain continued concurrent therapy and not taper off benzodiazepine will be sent to the medical director for review

✓ **Acetaminophen interaction safety measures:**

Total doses of acetaminophen greater than 4000mg per day will be denied

If you have any questions, please contact the Pharmacy Department at 602.778.1800 (Options in order: 5, 5).

Thank You!

Pharmacy Department
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