

P2P Note: OTC prescriptions for long-term use drugs are covered for children (only) through Medicaid.

**Health Care Policy and Finance Response  
to Question about OTC Drug Coverage through Medicaid – 2/19/08**

After our phone conversation last week, I explored your concerns regarding your Over the Counter (OTC) pharmacy requests for Miralax, Zyrtec and Claritin.

Prescription Miralax is available in generic form and does not need Prior Authorization (PAR). We just need to be sure your physician doesn't check the box on the prescription pad which indicates "no generics". Zyrtec needs a PAR because it is an OTC. Brand name Claritin needs a PAR as well.

PAR's for OTC's are actually easy for your provider to obtain for you. The staff in your provider's office can fill out the Pharmacy PAR listing the OTC as being medically necessary and send it to our reviewing agency.

Another, quicker option would be for your provider to call the 1-800 number listed below and make a verbal request for coverage. I have heard from other Medicaid providers that this system is working well for them and they like having immediate access to PAR staff in order to quickly facilitate patients needs. I have included the information below just in case you provider is not aware of the availability of the call in option:

800.365.4944. Fax is 888.772.9696

Both numbers are on all of the pharmacy forms, which can be located at:  
<http://www.chcpf.state.co.us/HCPF/Pharmacy/nwPAList.asp>

Please let me know immediately if you have any questions or encounter a roadblock. I am also happy to post this same information on the Parent to Parent list serve.

I have spoken to Pharmacy staff as well as EPSDT and Acute Care Benefits staff to assure that any time EPSDT is mentioned during a phone call that we stop and assess the situation. We want to be sure that every child is receiving all medically necessary care available to them. Please feel free to call me directly should you have any other issues or concerns.

Thanks!

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