

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Public Notice: SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces its intent to submit transmittal number 19-0000 to the Texas State Plan for Medical Assistance, under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. The purpose of the amendment is to implement Section 1004 of the federal Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act (P.L. 115-271), known as the "SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act," and the recent changes to Texas Human Resources Code Section 32.024(z-2) and Texas Health & Safety Code Section 481.07636 regarding the three prescription per month limit.

The purpose of this amendment is to:

- Articulate claims review requirements such as prospective and retrospective Drug Utilization Review (DUR) activities on opioid prescriptions, policies related to safety edits on maximum daily morphine milligram equivalents (MME) to limit the daily MME (as recommended by clinical guidelines), DUR warning messages for concurrent use, retrospective reviews on opioid overutilization to monitor prescribers for outlier activities, monitoring antipsychotic medications to children, and fraud and abuse identification.
- For persons age 21 and older, exempt prescriptions for opioids to treat acute pain under Texas Health & Safety Code Section 481.07636 from the three prescription per month limit, with the goal of improving health outcomes for Medicaid/CHIP beneficiaries.

The amendment will be submitted by December 31, 2019, and is effective December 1, 2019.

To obtain copies of the proposed amendment, interested parties may contact Courtney Pool, State Plan Specialist, by mail at the Health and Human Services Commission, PO Box 13247, Mail Code H-600, Austin, Texas 78711; by telephone at (512) 424-6889; by facsimile at (512) 730-7472; or by email at Medicaid_Chip_SPA_Inquiries@hhsc.state.tx.us. Copies of the proposal will also be made available for public review at the local offices of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.