

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

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RETURN TO CERTAIN PRE-COVID-19 PHARMACY POLICIES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2022

Beginning in March 2020, in accordance with state and federal laws, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) temporarily revised certain pharmacy policies in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This included temporary changes to the following policies:

- Expedited emergency supply list
- The overuse precaution (also known as early refill, or “ER”) prospective Drug Utilization Review (DUR) alert
- Three-month supply drugs
- Quantity limits

For dates of service on and after December 1, 2022, these temporary policy changes will end, and existing pharmacy coverage and policy guidelines will be reinstated. This may include the addition of coverage and policy guidelines for drugs that were introduced during the public health emergency.

The following pharmacy data tables, available on the [Pharmacy Provider-specific Resources page](#) of the ForwardHealth Portal, will be updated in

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, SeniorCare

TO

Community Health Centers, Hospital Providers, Independent Labs, Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacies, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Podiatrists, Rural Health Clinics, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

QUICK LINKS

- [Pharmacy Provider-specific Resources page](#)
- [Pharmacy Online Handbook](#)

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 107.10 and Wis. Stat. § 49.45(49).

November 2022 with a December 1, 2022, effective date to reflect reinstated coverage information:

- Early Refill Drug Utilization Review Drugs
- Quantity Limit Drugs and Diabetic Supplies
- Three-Month Supply Drugs
- Expedited Emergency Supply Request Drugs

Note: These data tables are regularly updated; providers are responsible for being up to date with current ForwardHealth policy and procedures and billing information as indicated in the data tables.

Refer to the [Pharmacy service area of the Online Handbook](#) and the [Pharmacy Provider-specific Resources page](#) of the Portal for the most current pharmacy coverage and policy information.

Continuing COVID-19-Related Treatment Exceptions

There are current prior authorization and utilization management exceptions for drugs and COVID-19-related treatment for BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and SeniorCare members. These exceptions will not be changing. For more information regarding these COVID-19-related exceptions, refer to ForwardHealth Update [2022-36](#), titled “Prior Authorization and Utilization Management Exceptions for Drugs and COVID-19-Related Treatment.”

Member Notification

Reinstating existing pharmacy policies may result in changes to supplying members’ prescriptions (for example, quantity dispensed, days’ supply). ForwardHealth has created a poster and flyer to inform members of this return to existing pharmacy policies. The poster and the flyer contain the same text. The poster (8 1/2 inches by 11 inches) can be printed and displayed in provider locations; the flyer (5 1/2 inches by 8 inches) can be printed and attached to member prescriptions.

Refer to the Attachment to this Update for copies of the poster and flyer. Downloadable versions of the poster and flyer are available on the DHS [COVID-19 “Unwinding” Partner Toolkit webpage](#), under the “Member communication campaigns” subheading. Note: The poster and flyer include reminders to members to keep their Wisconsin Medicaid/BadgerCare Plus contact information current. Members who may have moved since 2020, gotten a new mobile phone, or started using a new email address should log in to ACCESS ([English site](#), [Spanish site](#)) or the mobile app, [MyACCESS](#), and make any changes.

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Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This Update applies to pharmacy services that members receive on a fee-for-service basis and through BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid SSI, and other managed care programs. For information about managed care implementation of the updated policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization (MCO). MCOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

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The ForwardHealth Update is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health within DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

ATTACHMENT

Member Poster and Flyer Regarding Return to Existing Pharmacy Policies

(Copies of the member poster and flyer are located on the following pages.)

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 107.10 and Wis. Stat. § 49.45(49).

Are you a member of BadgerCare Plus or a Wisconsin Medicaid program?

There may be changes in how you get your prescriptions starting December 1, 2022.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid created temporary policies to make it easier for members to get their prescriptions. Those policies are ending. Beginning December 1, 2022:

- You may not be able to refill your prescription early.
- You may only be able to get a one month supply of some of your prescriptions.
- You may have a limit on the number of tablets allowed in a month for a medicine you take.



To find out how your prescriptions may be affected, talk to the pharmacist.

Make sure you're getting important information about BadgerCare Plus or your Wisconsin Medicaid program. If you need to, visit access.wi.gov to update your address, phone number, and/or email so you get communications from your program.

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