

This Update has been revised since its original publication. Revised information appears in red text on page 1.

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The Online Handbook will not be revised to include temporary policy information in this Update.

# ForwardHealth UPDATE

Wisconsin serving you

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## COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR PHARMACIES

In response to COVID-19, ForwardHealth is implementing the following temporary measures for pharmacies and pharmacy services. ForwardHealth will publish additional guidance about the topics addressed in this ForwardHealth Update when the temporary policies related to COVID-19 expire. For the latest information from ForwardHealth regarding COVID-19, refer to the [COVID-19: ForwardHealth Provider News and Resources page](#) on the ForwardHealth Portal.

### Early Refill

The overuse precaution (also known as early refill, or “ER”) prospective Drug Utilization Review (DUR) alert for a claim is activated when the drug, drug strength, and dosage form on that claim matches the drug, drug strength, and dosage form on another claim in ForwardHealth claims history for which the threshold percentage of the day’s supply remains on the prescription fill/refill. The alert will indicate the date that the drug can be refilled without activating the alert.

Beginning March 20, 2020, pharmacies will be allowed to override the overuse precaution prospective DUR alert for drugs that previously

## 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 LINK

[ForwardHealth Portal](#)

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with [Social Security Act § 1927\(d\)\(6\)](#) and pursuant to the administrative rule suspension of Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 107.10.



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of HEALTH SERVICES

required an override by the Drug Authorization and Policy Override (DAPO) Center, excluding Schedule II drugs. Schedule II drugs will still require a DAPO exception to override the alert. Pharmacists should use their clinical judgement when determining the appropriateness and necessity of overriding a DUR alert.

## Three-Month Supply Drugs

ForwardHealth currently has a [list of drugs](#) that are either allowed or required to be dispensed in a three-month supply. Beginning March 20, 2020, ForwardHealth will move all required drugs to an allowed status and also add all other drugs to an allowed three-month supply status, with the exception of Schedule II drugs. Consistent with federal requirements, Schedule II drugs can only be dispensed in a one-month supply.

## Quantity Limits

ForwardHealth currently has established [quantity limits](#) on certain drug classes. Beginning March 20, 2020, ForwardHealth will remove quantity limits for drugs and diabetic supplies, with the exception of Schedule II drugs. Schedule II drugs will continue to be subject to quantity limits. If medically appropriate for members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, Wisconsin Medicaid, and SeniorCare, providers may request a [policy override](#) from the DAPO Center.

## Reminders

### Home or Mail Delivery

Providers and members are encouraged to consider mail delivery service for prescription drugs. Current Wisconsin law permits Wisconsin Medicaid-enrolled pharmacies to deliver prescriptions to members via the mail. Wisconsin Medicaid-enrolled retail pharmacies may dispense and mail any prescription or over-the-counter medication to a member at no additional cost to the member or to ForwardHealth.

When filling prescriptions for members, providers are encouraged to use the mail delivery option if requested by the member, particularly for prescriptions filled for a three-month supply.

### Emergency Supply

During this time, ForwardHealth encourages providers to consider using the 14-day emergency supply policy as needed.

This [emergency medication dispensing policy](#) applies to members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, Wisconsin Medicaid, and SeniorCare.

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Emergency medication dispensing is intended to ensure that members receive medically necessary medications while a prior authorization request is being adjudicated.

### **Expedited Emergency Supply**

The expedited emergency supply policy is an emergency dispensing option available for certain drugs.

ForwardHealth allows pharmacy providers to submit prior authorization requests for an expedited emergency supply for certain drugs using the [STAT-PA](#) system and then submit a claim for the expedited emergency supply electronically. This eliminates the need to submit claims for expedited emergency supply drugs on paper.

Providers are encouraged to regularly check the [Expedited Emergency Supply Request Drugs](#) data table to see if additional drugs have been added to this list.

### **Resources**

Providers are encouraged to visit the [Pharmacy Provider-specific Resources](#) page of the Portal for up-to-date pharmacy drug coverage information.

### **Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations**

This Update contains fee-for-service policy for members enrolled in Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus who receive pharmacy services on a fee-for-service basis only. Pharmacy services for Medicaid members enrolled in the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) and Family Care Partnership members enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid are provided by the member's managed care organization.

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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/](http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/).