72-Hour Emergency Supply Available for Pharmacy Prior Authorization Drugs

Pharmacy providers are encouraged to use the 72-hour emergency supply allowed for drugs requiring prior approval. Federal law requires that this emergency supply be available to Medicaid beneficiaries for drugs requiring prior approval (Social Security Act, Section 1927, 42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(d)(5)(B)). Use of this emergency supply will ensure access to medically necessary medications.

The system will bypass the prior approval requirement if an emergency supply is indicated. Use a “3” in the Level of Service field (418-DI) to indicate that the transaction is an emergency fill.

Note: Copayments will apply and only the drug cost will be reimbursed. There is no limit to the number of times the emergency supply can be used.