

ISSUE DATE July 25, 2014	EFFECTIVE DATE July 22, 2014	NUMBER *See below	
SUBJECT Prior Authorization of Anticoagulants - Pharmacy Services		BY  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue updated handbook pages that include instructions on how to request prior authorization of prescriptions for Anticoagulants, including the type of medical information needed to evaluate requests for medical necessity.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies and prescribers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program and providing services in the fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system, including pharmacy services to residents of long term care facilities.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Department of Public Welfare (Department) revised the guidelines to determine medical necessity of Anticoagulants to be consistent with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, or medically accepted, indications. The updated guidelines to determine medical necessity were subject to public review and comment, and subsequently approved for implementation by the Department. The requirements for prior authorization and clinical review guidelines to determine the medical necessity of Anticoagulants are included in the attached updated provider handbook pages.

PROCEDURE:

The procedures for prescribers to request prior authorization of Anticoagulants are located in SECTION I of the Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook. The Department will take into account the elements specified in the clinical review guidelines

*01-14-28	09-14-23	27-14-21	33-14-22
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03-14-23	14-14-20	31-14-26	
08-14-24	24-14-20	32-14-20	

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(which are included in the provider handbook pages in the SECTION II chapters related to Anticoagulants) when reviewing the prior authorization request to determine medical necessity.

As set forth in 55 Pa. Code § 1101.67(a), the procedures described in the handbook pages must be followed to ensure appropriate and timely processing of prior authorization requests for drugs that require prior authorization.

ATTACHMENTS:

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook - Updated pages

SECTION II
Anticoagulants