

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Bladder Relaxant Preparations

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

1. A prescription for a non-preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation
See Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparations at:
www.providersynergies.com/services/documents/PAM_PDL.pdf
2. A prescription for a preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation with a prescribed quantity that exceeds the quantity limit. See Quantity Limits for the list of drugs with quantity limits at:
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/doingbusinesswithdpw/pharmacyservices/quantitylimitslist/index.htm>
3. A prescription for either a preferred or non-preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation when there is a record of a recent paid claim for another drug with in the same therapeutic class of drugs in PROMISE, the Department's Point-of-Sale On-Line Claims Adjudication System (therapeutic duplication)

B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a Bladder Relaxant Preparation, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account the following:

1. For a non-preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation, whether the recipient has a history of a contraindication, intolerance to, or therapeutic failure of the preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparations
2. For therapeutic duplication, whether:
 - a. The recipient is being titrated to, or tapered from, a drug in the same class

OR

 - b. Supporting peer-reviewed literature or national treatment guidelines corroborate concomitant use of the medications being requested

OR

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3. The recipient does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above, but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.

In addition, if a prescription for either a preferred or non-preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation is in a quantity that exceeds the quantity limit, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in the Quantity Limits Chapter.

C . Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guideline in Section B. above, to assess the medical necessity of the request for a prescription for a non-preferred Bladder Relaxant Preparation. If the guideline in Section B. is met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guideline is not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.