

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy Operations	DOCUMENT NAME: Specialty Pharmacy Program
PAGE: 1 of 3	REPLACES DOCUMENT: GA.PHAR.18
APPROVED DATE: 03/2014	RETIRED:
EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/2014	REVIEWED/REVISED 1/2018, 3/2018
PRODUCT TYPE: All	REFERENCE NUMBER: GA.PHAR.18.01

SCOPE:

Centene Corporate Pharmacy Department, Peach State Health Plan (Peach State) Pharmacy Departments, Acaria Specialty Pharmacy and Envolve Pharmacy Solutions.

PURPOSE:

The Specialty Pharmacy Program is designed to provide the Peach State Pharmacy Department and Acaria Specialty Pharmacy Services with guidance on the approval and denial process for provision of biopharmaceuticals or other high cost drug therapy where preferred contract pricing may apply. Acaria is the preferred Specialty Pharmacy provider for Peach State.

POLICY:

Acaria will process provider and Peach State requests for specialty pharmacy services. Most drug therapy with costs in excess of \$670 per dose, or in excess of \$670 per treatment regimen (consisting of more than one dose), requires prior authorization. Acaria is the current preferred provider for specialty drugs for Peach State. Requests for specialty drugs should be directed to Peach State Health Plan, Pharmacy Department at 1-800-514-0083, option 2 or faxed to 1-866-374-1579.

Specialty medications, for which the provider has been contractually approved for use of office supplies, may also require prior authorization. All such requests should be faxed directly to Peach State. Upon receipt, the Peach State Pharmacy Department will follow the procedures below, but without the prescreening function performed by Acaria. Such referrals are first reviewed by the Peach State Pharmacist and the approval or denial work flows followed as below.

The Peach State Pharmacy Department is responsible to communicate approvals or denials back to Acaria and/or the provider's office within the timeframes outlined in the Specialty Drug Classification (GA.PHAR.15).

PROCEDURE:

1. Peach State Pharmacy Department receives a member referral for a specialty drug from a provider.

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O.C.G.A. 50-18-72(b)(1)"

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2. Peach State Pharmacy Department verifies member eligibility. If the member is *not* eligible proceed to Step 2 a.
 - a. If patient is confirmed as not eligible, Peach State Pharmacy Department informs the prescribing provider that member is not eligible.

3. The Peach State Pharmacy Department, enters a Service/Procedure Request (TruCare), adds notes (TruCare), attaches the documents provided by the provider (TruCare), and sends the referral and clinical information to the Peach State Pharmacist for review.
 - a. If the Peach State Pharmacist approves the request, the Peach State Pharmacy Department notes the approval in TruCare, notifies Acaria (if applicable) and the provider of authorization dates and authorization number. If Acaria is supplying the medication, authorization is also entered in Envolve Pharmacy Solution's system.
 - b. If the Peach State Pharmacist denies the request, the Peach State Pharmacy Department completes the denial in TruCare, and sends a denial notification to provider via fax. The Appeals and Grievances Department sends a denial letter to the provider and the patient.

REFERENCES:

GA.PHAR.15 Specialty Drug Classification

ATTACHMENTS:

DEFINITIONS: Specialty Drug – Drugs categorized as biopharmaceuticals or drugs that have preferred contract pricing arrangements for provision by a specialty supplier.

REVISION LOG

REVISION	DATE
Annual review. No changes made.	03/2015

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Changed \$500 to \$600 per dose or treatment requires PA	03/2016
Annual review. Changed threshold to \$670. Changed US Script to Envolve Pharmacy Solutions.	01/2017
Annual Review. No changes made	01/2018
Annual review. No changes made.	03/2018

POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL

Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee:	Approval on file
Sr. Director, Pharmacy Operations:	Approval on file
Sr. Medical Director:	Approval on file

NOTE: The electronic approval is retained in Compliance 360.