

Pain Management Policy

Beginning January 2017, all current opiate users who are above the maximum combined daily dose of 100 MME must titrate their total daily dose of opioid medications below 300 MME. Also, the maximum daily supply of an opiate prescription for acute pain will be limited to 7-day supplies. The maximum day supply of an opiate prescription for chronic pain will be limited to 30-day supplies. As of July 1, 2017 all users of opioid medications must comply with the maximum combined daily dose of 100 MME.

However, for MaineCare members, effective January 1, 2017, opioid prescription(s) for more than a 7-day supply and/or more than 30 MME/ day will require a prior authorization. Please note that MaineCare implemented a 30 MME limit January 1, 2013 that is still effective.

The following are general exceptions: pain associated with cancer treatment, end-of-life and hospice care, palliative care, and symptoms related to HIV/AIDS. Per MaineCare criteria, the diagnosis of cancer must be written on the prescription. A palliative care exception for any MaineCare opioid prescription will require prior authorization (PA) with appropriate clinical documentation.

Post-surgical members may receive prior authorizations for opiates up to a 60 days in length if medical necessity is provided by the surgical provider.

An MME conversion chart is available at www.mainearepdl.org. Click on “General Pharmacy Info.”
