

Market Applicability														
Market	DC	FL & FHK	FL MMA	FL LTC	GA	KS	KY	MD	NJ	NV	NY	TN	TX	WA
Applicable	X	X	NA	NA	X	NA	X	NA	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA

*FHK- Florida Healthy Kids

Cumulative Morphine Equivalent Dose (MED) for Opioid Analgesic Therapy

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Cumulative Morphine Equivalent Dose	<p>Initial Request: 3 months</p> <p>Maintenance Therapy: Additional authorization required every 6 months</p> <p>Individuals receiving for terminal diagnosis and receiving palliative care/end-of-life therapy: Lifetime</p> <p>Individuals receiving for cancer related pain: 1 year</p>

Medications
All Opioids

APPROVAL CRITERIA

Authorization for more than 90 mg MED (morphine equivalent dose) per day of opioid analgesics may be approved for the following (VA/DoD 2017, CDC 2016):

- I. Individual has been diagnosed with cancer and appropriate cancer pain management requires dosing that exceeds the restricted amount;
- OR**
- II. Individual has a terminal illness and appropriate pain management requires dosing that exceeds the restricted amount;

OR

- III. Individual meets one of the following:
 - A. Individual is stabilized on current dose and opioid utilization at that dose is effective in reducing pain and/or increasing function; **OR**
 - B. Individual has obtained partial pain relief at lower doses of opioids and dose escalation is clinically appropriate;

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New Program Date 09/04/2018

This policy does not apply to health plans or member categories that do not have pharmacy benefits, nor does it apply to Medicare. Note that market specific restrictions or transition-of-care benefit limitations may apply.

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Applicable	X	X	NA	NA	X	NA	X	NA	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA

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AND

- IV. Individual will be routinely monitored regarding continued improvement in pain and/or function as well as the absence of aberrant behaviors (including but not limited to: obtaining prescriptions from other providers, obtaining opioids from non-medical sources, forgery/alteration of prescriptions, recurrent episodes of prescription loss or theft, recurrent episodes of running short of medication supply and/or repeated requests for early refills). (AMDG 2015)

State Specific Mandates		
State name	Date effective	Mandate details (including specific bill if applicable)
N/A	N/A	N/A

Key References:

Dowell D, Haegerich TM, Chou R. CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain — United States, 2016. MMWR Recomm Rep 2016;65:1–49. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.r.r6501e1>.

Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2017; Updated periodically.

VA/DOD Clinical Practice Guideline for Opioid Therapy for Chronic Pain. Department of Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense. Version 3.0 – 2017. Available from: <https://www.healthquality.va.gov/guidelines/Pain/cot/VADoDOTCPG022717.pdf>. October 31, 2017.

Washington State Agency Medical Directors' Group. Interagency guideline on opioid dosing for chronic non-cancer pain: an educational aid to improve care and safety with opioid treatment. Olympia (WA): Washington State Department of Labor and Industries; June 2015. Available from: <http://www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/Files/2015AMDGOpioidGuideline.pdf>. Accessed October 31, 2017.

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