

Implementation date changed for Washington Apple Health opioid clinical policy

Summary of change: The Health Care Authority (HCA) is changing the implementation date for the Washington Apple Health opioid clinical policy.

The policy will now take effect November 1, 2017. It is available to review online at www.hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/opioid-policy.pdf.

Why is this change necessary?

As HCA began to communicate about the policy and informational webinars for prescribers and pharmacists, HCA heard concerns about the time needed to put process changes fully in place. Because HCA does not want the policy to disrupt practices and patient care, HCA is moving the date.

HCA wants all managed care organizations serving Washington Apple Health clients, prescribers and pharmacies statewide to be able to make the transition as smoothly as possible.

More information about the policy can be found on the HCA website at www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers/programs-and-services/opioids.

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication, received this in error or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.