



# Prescription Limit Provider Guidance

## What is Alabama Medicaid's new prescription limit policy?

- ❖ **Effective January 1, 2014**, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will implement a prescription limit.
- ❖ The number of outpatient pharmacy prescriptions will be limited for **five total drugs (including up to four brands)** per month per adult recipient.
- ❖ Effective **January 1, 2014**, prescription claims that exceed the four brand/five total limit will be rejected. Allowances will still be allowed for the drug classes listed below. No overrides will be allowed.

## Are there any exceptions to the prescription limit?

- ❖ Children under 21 and nursing home recipients are excluded.
- ❖ Allowances will be made for up to 10 prescriptions (brand and/or generic) per month for antipsychotics, antiretrovirals, and anti-epileptic agents.
- ❖ Prior to May 1, 2014, medications in the Maintenance Supply Program dispensed as a maintenance supply quantity will not count towards the prescription limit.
- ❖ Effective May 1, 2014, medications in the maintenance supply program will not count towards the prescription limit, even if dispensed for a quantity less than a maintenance supply.
- ❖ Allowances are made for the prescription limit for timely refills. Prescriptions refilled timely on/after the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the current month will be counted towards the next month's prescription limit.

## How should providers prepare for the changes?

- ❖ Maintenance supply medications will not count towards the prescription limit. However:
  - Maintenance supply medications dispensed between 1/1/14 and 1/9/14 must be reversed and retroactively rebilled to be excluded from the prescription limit.
  - Claims denied between 1/1/14 and 1/9/14 as a result of the prescription limit may be eligible for coverage, and can be resubmitted.
  - Maintenance medications dispensed on or after 1/10/14 will be excluded from the prescription limit. No further action will be needed for these claims.
- ❖ Effective January 1, 2014, entering 0000909090 in the PA field will no longer override the mandatory maintenance supply edit.
- ❖ Pharmacists and prescribers should work together to coordinate the best medication schedule for each individual recipient.
- ❖ For information regarding the program, visit the Alabama Medicaid website at [http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/4.0\\_Programs/4.5\\_Pharmacy\\_Services.aspx](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/4.0_Programs/4.5_Pharmacy_Services.aspx).

## Contact Information

Provider Call Center (HP): 1-800-688-7989  
Alabama Medicaid: 1-334-242-5050

Health Information Designs: 1-800-748-0130  
Email questions to: [rxinfo@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:rxinfo@medicaid.alabama.gov)