

March 20, 2019

AETNA BETTER HEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AETNA BETTER HEALTH KIDS

Opioid Prior Authorization Guidelines –Phase 3

Dear Aetna Better Health Provider,

Aetna Better Health of Pennsylvania and Aetna Better Health Kids would like to notify you that effective on the below dates, Aetna Better Health of Pennsylvania and Aetna Better Health Kids **WILL REQUIRE** prior authorization for the following, before services are rendered.

The prior authorization requirements outlined in the chart below for **Phase 3** will be effective starting July 1, 2019.

	Phase 1 Effective 9/1/18	Phase 2 Effective 1/1/19	Phase 3 Effective 7/1/19
Long-acting opioids (LAO)	All LAOs require PA	All LAOs require PA	All LAOs require PA
Short-acting opioids (SAO)	PA required for patients new to opioid therapy after: 3 days (children) 5 days (adults)	PA required for all patients after: 3 days (children) 5 days (adults)	PA required for all patients after: 3 days (children) 5 days (adults)
Morphine milligram equivalents (MME)	PA required for ≥ 90 MME/day	PA required for ≥ 90 MME/day	PA required for ≥ 50 MME/day
Exceptions	Active cancer, sickle cell crisis, and palliative care/hospice	Active cancer, sickle cell crisis, and palliative care/hospice	Active cancer, sickle cell crisis, and palliative care/hospice

All other policies shown are already in effect with the exception of PA required for more than 50 MME/day, which will be effective July 1, 2019.

Please note: These tables are a reference point only and do not serve as the final authority in prior authorization of services. You should continue to access the secure provider portal from the Prior Authorization tab for real-time information regarding authorization requirements. You can contact our Prior Authorization team at **1-866-638-1232**, to confirm prior authorization requirements before performing services.

If you have any questions, you can contact our Provider Relations Department by calling 1-866-638-1232.