HB 2145 Medication Synchronization
March 2019 Published date of policy

Lines of Business impacted
Commercial/Exchange
*Self-Funded Groups-if approved by group
QUEST Integration

I. DESCRIPTION

Effective July, 1, 2018

The intent of this law is to promote medication adherence for individuals who are on 2 or more medications for chronic conditions. It permits a network pharmacy to synchronize a patient’s maintenance medications to enable a single pickup every month. Subject to certain limitations as further described below, health plans are required to prorate copayments for any resulting prescriptions that are dispensed for less than a 30-day supply, and must pay a full dispense fee.

II. CRITERIA/GUIDELINES

Upon receipt of a member request, or in the event a member is asked and they agree to synchronize their maintenance medications, the following requirements apply:

- A pharmacist will determine the “anchor prescription” to which all other prescriptions will be synchronized
- The anchor prescription cannot be medication that is dispensed in an unbreakable package (e.g., eye drops, inhalers, ointments and creams)
- A pharmacist may override any denial codes indicating that a prescription is being refilled too soon.
- A pharmacist may override any denial on the basis of a partial fill.
- Only maintenance medications shall be synchronized. Maintenance medications are drugs prescribed for chronic, long-term conditions and are taken on a regular, recurring basis.
- Copayments will be prorated for prescriptions that are dispensed for less than a 30-day supply
- Only pharmacies that participate in HMSA’s network are eligible for medication synchronization.
- The coordination of all medication to be synchronized shall occur at a single contracted network pharmacy

III. LIMITATIONS

- Does not apply to schedule II narcotics
- Dispense fees will not be prorated
• Unbreakable packaged medications are excluded from medication synchronization
• Applies to primary claims only

IV. EXCLUSIONS

• Does not apply to Medicare Programs
• Does not apply to Fed87 plan