**INITIAL START OF THERAPY**

**Month 1**

- **Step 1**: Up to 24mg/day

**Months 2 - 5**

- **Step 2**: Up to 16mg/day

**Remaining Months**

- **Step 3**: Up to 8mg/day

**RE-START OF THERAPY**

*Only 1 re-start permitted*

(Refill gap of 60+ days considered a discontinuation of therapy that required a restart in treatment)

**Month 1 - 2**

- **Step 1**: Up to 16mg/day

**Remaining Months**

- **Step 2**: Up to 8mg/day

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**Cumulative 24 months maximum coverage – Only 1 re-start permitted**

- Buprenorphine - naloxone is only approved for opioid dependence – ICD-9 codes 304.0x, 304.7x, 305.5x required to be found in medical claims or written on prescription and entered by pharmacist with prescription claim.
- Buprenorphine is only approved for use during pregnancy – IDc-9 codes V22.xx, V23.xx required to be found in medical claims or written on prescription and entered by pharmacist with prescription claim.
- All buprenorphine - naloxone prescribers must have current XDEA number.

**Opiate use restriction:**

- Beneficiaries cannot have prescription for more than 5 day supply of opiate while on buprenorphine - naloxone therapy.
- Cumulative maximum of 10 days of opiate treatment while on buprenorphine - naloxone therapy.
- Medicaid claims are electronically reviewed for opiate use. Physicians are encouraged to use Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) to monitor opiate use paid for by cash or other payers.

**Trouble Shooting Rejections:**

- **New start denied no diagnoses found in medical claims or pharmacy claim**
  
  **Solution**: Pharmacy can enter diagnosis code on pharmacy claim and call Medicaid PA unit for approval if diagnosis provided on prescription.

- **Maximum daily dose exceeded for current step in therapy**
  
  **Solution**: Limits at each step in therapy are absolute. Beneficiary may pay for additional pills.

- **Beneficiary has claim for > 5 days of opiate use in last 30 days**
  
  **Solution**: Refill for buprenorphine - naloxone cannot be processed until 30 days after opiate prescription was filled.

- **Beneficiary has more than 10 days total opiate supply while on buprenorphine - naloxone therapy**
  
  **Solution**: Manual PA required for appeal to continue treatment.

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Copies of this Summary Sheet are available at: www.pharmacy.olemiss.edu/cpmm/msdurresourcesforproviders.html