

NEWSLETTER

Volume 33 No. 17 October 2023

TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services - For Action

Managed Care Organizations - For Information Only

SUBJECT: Additional Guidance for the Naloxone365 Initiative

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE: To provide providers of pharmaceutical services with additional guidance for the DHS initiative to provide free naloxone anonymously to any NJ resident fourteen (14) years of age or older regardless of their Medicaid/NJFC eligibility.

BACKGROUND: The Medicaid Newsletter Volume 33, No.01 describes the "Naloxone365" program, developed to provide free naloxone anonymously to eligible NJ residents regardless of their NJFC/Medicaid eligibility. Naloxone365 is making free naloxone more readily available to NJ residents to assist with stemming the tide of opioid-related overdose deaths which continue to rise at an alarming rate throughout the country and within New Jersey.

In March 2023, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved 4 mg naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray for over-the-counter (OTC) use. With FDA approval of OTC naloxone, DHS is including coverage of OTC naloxone in the Naloxone365 program for any NJ resident fourteen (14) years of age or older regardless of their NJFC/Medicaid eligibility.

ACTION: <u>Effective immediately</u>, both FDA-approved <u>legend and OTC</u> naloxone 4 mg nasal spray products shall be covered by the Naloxone365 program.

The billing requirements outlined in the Medicaid Newsletter Volume 33, No.1 apply when submitting **legend** and **OTC** naloxone claims. However, since there is no standing order issued by the New Jersey Department of Health for OTC naloxone, pharmacies may populate the NCPDP Prescriber ID field (411-DVB) with their pharmacy NPI instead.

The unit price for both legend and OTC naloxone nasal spray products shall be based on the lowest of the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC), the Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) less 2 percent, or the State Upper Limit (SUL) plus a dispensing fee of \$10.92; or the pharmacy's usual and customary charge.

Please contact the Gainwell Technologies Provider Services Unit at 1-800-776-6334 for any questions regarding this Newsletter.