

NOTICE:

Long-Acting Opioids Formulary Status Change

In our ongoing efforts to ensure the provision of quality care and services for our members, Health Choice Arizona, through the guidance of AHCCCS, will be implementing changes to our formulary in regards to long acting opioids. All long-acting opioids will now require prior authorization (PA) and certain agents will have a non-preferred status. The formulary changes can be found on our website at www.healthchoiceaz.com on the formulary page under Formulary Updates. Changes will include:

Drug and strength	Status	Drug and strength	Status
Butrans patches	Preferred with PA	Methadone	Non-formulary with PA
Embeda capsules	Preferred with PA	Oxymorphone ER	Non-formulary with PA
Fentanyl patches (12, 25, 50, 75, & 100mcg)	Preferred with PA	Fentanyl patches (37.5, 62.5, & 87.5mcg)	Non-formulary with PA
Hysingla ER tablets	Preferred with PA	Morphine Sulfate ER caps	Non-formulary with PA
Morphine Sulfate ER tabs	Preferred with PA	Morphine Sulfate ER pellets	Non-formulary with PA
Oxycontin tablets	Preferred with PA	Tramadol ER	Non-formulary with PA

These changes will become effective on January 1, 2017 and will affect all members starting on new therapy. All current members utilizing a long-acting opioid may start to see rejections as soon as March 1, 2017 at which time they will need a prior authorization.

All Health Choice Arizona preferred drugs must be tried before we can approve a non-preferred drug. As always, chart notes explaining medical necessity are reviewed by a pharmacist or Medical Director.

At Health Choice Arizona, we are committed to helping our members increase their quality of life. We are equally committed to working with our providers to assure the greatest potential to improve member outcomes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 480-968-6866 or 800-322-8670 and ask to speak to a pharmacist.

Health Choice's Pharmacy Department is committed to making this transition as smooth as possible and will make sure members' clinical needs are taken care of with your assistance.

