

PHARMACY UPDATE



Temporary Medicaid Authorizations

When an applicant is determined eligible for Medicaid and has an immediate need for a prescription drug the local social service district (LDSS) may issue a temporary paper Medicaid authorization (DSS-2831A) to make certain that the applicant receives needed services. When this occurs please refer to the following information.

Providers should ensure that temporary paper authorizations presented at the pharmacy are filled out completely. Providers must also make a copy of all temporary Medicaid authorizations for their records.

Claims for drugs dispensed to members with temporary paper Medicaid authorizations **cannot** be submitted through the online Pro-DUR/ECCA program since eligibility is not yet on file. However, it is important to note that temporary paper Medicaid authorizations are a guarantee of coverage for the time period indicated on the card. Once the local district has updated eligibility in the system, the provider will be able to bill Medicaid as long as the dispensed medication was not identified as having prior authorization requirements.

Currently, temporary paper Medicaid authorizations **cannot** be used for medications that require a prior authorization. Drugs that require a prior authorization are identified on the eMedNY formulary file with a PA code = G and can be found at: <https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>. Pharmacy providers are also encouraged to check the Preferred Drug List (PDL) prior to dispensing to members with temporary authorizations. If the online claim adjudication results in a denial for member ineligibility, providers may contact the NYSDOH Local District Support Unit at:

- Upstate members: (518) 474-8887
- New York City members: (212) 417-4500.

If the online claim adjudication results in a denial because the drug required prior authorization, providers may contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Program Implementation and Administration at (518) 486-3209.