



MEDICAL POLICIES

DECEMBER 28, 2018



Medical Policies - December 2018

Pharmacy

Accredo – EmblemHealth’s New Specialty Pharmacy

Starting **January 1, 2019**, Accredo, an Express Scripts subsidiary, will be EmblemHealth’s preferred specialty pharmacy vendor. (Magellan is the current specialty pharmacy vendor). Prescriptions will transfer to Accredo to avoid your patients missing remaining refills. To order medications, contact Accredo using accredo.com; or call them at **855-216-2166**.

EmblemHealth to Manage Injectable Drug Utilization

Starting **January 1, 2019**, submit prior approval requests for injectable drugs to EmblemHealth by fax at **877-243-4812** or by calling **888-447-0295**.

Formulary Updates

[Click here](#) to see all formularies.

New Medicare Part D Prescription Opioid Policies for 2019

Beginning **January 1, 2019**, EmblemHealth will implement new strategies to help prevent and combat opioid overuse. The new strategies include improved safety alerts when opioid prescriptions are dispensed at the pharmacy, and drug management programs to better coordinate care when chronic high-risk opioid use is present.

Prescribers will be expected to respond to pharmacy outreach related to opioid safety alerts in a timely manner and give the appropriate training to on-call prescribers when necessary. The criteria used to identify potentially at-risk beneficiaries for drug management programs or point-of-sale safety alerts are not intended as prescribing limits. The goal is to prevent overutilization of frequently abused drugs while maintaining access to medically necessary drugs. You can find additional details on CMS's site [Improving Drug Utilization Review Controls in Part D](#).

Pharmacy Guidelines

Clinical Corner

Medical Technologies Database

The updated [Medical Technologies Database](#) has posted to [emblemhealth.com](#). Dispositions apply to all LOBs unless otherwise indicated.

Rejected

1. Apos (All Phase of Step) Therapy (AposTherapy®).
2. Surgical interventions for the prevention of lymphedema (e.g., microsurgery for the prevention of lymphedema in breast cancer [lymphatic microsurgical preventing healing approach —LYMPHA], simplified lymphatic microsurgical preventive healing approach [SLYMPHA], reverse lymphatic mapping).

Approved

1. Joint manipulation under anesthesia for adhesive capsulitis (i.e., frozen shoulder), elbow joint arthrofibrosis, and arthrofibrosis of the knee.
2. Prostate rectal spacers [e.g., SpaceOAR®] (Medicare only).

EmblemHealth

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EmblemHealth insurance plans are underwritten by Group Health Incorporated (GHI), Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York (HIP) and HIP Insurance Company of New York.

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