

BWC Pharmacy Benefits Program

BWC's pharmacy benefits program covers drugs prescribed to treat conditions related to an injured worker's claim. This program does not apply to claims managed by self-insured employers. If you have questions related to a self-insured claim, please contact the employer. Under BWC's program, pharmacists can submit most drug bills directly to BWC at the point of service through BWC's pharmacy benefit manager (PBM), SXC Health Solutions. You can submit bills as soon as an injury occurs, even before the injured worker has received a claim number. This fact sheet describes BWC's program, including early bill submission, drugs that require prior authorization, BWC's generic drug requirement, information about covered and non-covered items and descriptions of forms used in this program. For detailed information about the program, log on to ohiobwc.com and search for pharmacy benefits.

Submitting drug bills for a new claim

Pharmacy providers are expected to submit electronic bills for new injuries online through BWC's PBM even before the injured worker has a BWC claim number by using the Social Security number and date of injury. The PBM will inform the pharmacist that this is a new claim and will return the amount BWC would reimburse for the prescription. The pharmacist can elect to collect this amount from the newly injured worker or choose to accept assignment.

If a pharmacy accepts assignment, the injured worker does not have to pay, and the PBM will automatically reimburse the pharmacy once BWC allows the claim. If a pharmacy does not accept assignment, the injured worker is asked to pay the BWC fee schedule amount for the prescribed medication at the point of sale. The PBM will automatically reimburse the injured worker once BWC allows the claim. In either case, if BWC disallows the claim, the bill becomes the injured worker's responsibility. The use of the *Outpatient Medication Invoice (C-17)* for injured workers outpatient medication reimbursement should be rare and limited to special circumstances.

Medications not typically used for industrial injuries or occupational diseases

BWC only reimburses for medications related to the treatment of industrial injuries or occupational injuries. Effective for pharmacy bills with dates of service beginning March 1, 2004, BWC required prior authorization for medications not typically associated with the treatment of industrial injuries or occupational diseases regardless of date of injury.

SXC Health Solutions, processes prior authorization requests. To obtain authorization, the prescribing physician must complete the *Request for Prior Authorization of Medication (MEDCO-31)*, and document the relationship between the prescribed drug and the treatment of the allowed condition(s) in an injured worker's claim. You may access the prior authorization medication list by logging on to ohiobwc.com and clicking on Medical Providers, then Services, or by calling SXC Health Solutions at 1-800-OHIOBWC and listening to the options.

BRM, non-covered services and quarterly updates

Downloadable copies of BWC's *Billing and Reimbursement Manual (BRM)* and *Provider Updates* are available 24/7 by logging on to ohiobwc.com and clicking Medical Providers, then Services. The BRM is a great tool for information on outpatient medication covered and non-covered services, billing rules and laws, instructions for completing BWC billing forms and a guide for explanation of benefits. You can find information on BWC's Outpatient Medication Prior Authorization program in Chapter 3 (Services, Section D) and Chapter 4 (Billing Instructions, Sections D and E). To request hard copies of the BRM or Provider Update, call 1-800-OHIOBWC.

Forms to use – Access ohiobwc.com, click Medical Providers and then Forms

- **MEDCO-31** – Physicians use this form to request prior authorization for medications not typically used for industrial injuries or occupational diseases. Fax completed MEDCO-31 forms to SXC Health Solutions' prior authorization fax number, which is located at the bottom of the form for processing.
- **MEDCO-32** – Physicians use this form to request prior authorization for medications on BWC's non-preferred drug list. Some medications in the following categories require prior authorization: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), Cox-2 inhibitors, skeletal muscle relaxants and opioid analgesics. Fax completed MEDCO-32 forms to SXC Health Solutions' prior authorization fax number, which is located at the bottom of the form, for processing.

- **C-17** — Injured workers should use this form to request payment for prescribed outpatient medication only. Since pharmacy providers are expected to submit bills directly to BWC's PBM electronically, the use of the C-17 should be rare. Note: Injured workers whose employers are self-insuring should contact their employers for instructions on billing for outpatient medications. SXC Health Solutions is not responsible for processing bills in self-insuring claims.

- **Services Invoice (C-19) or HCFA 1500** — Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) determine reimbursement eligibility for the following services that may be obtained in a pharmacy: durable medical equipment; disposable medical supplies; and home infusion therapy. Drugs supplied in a physician's office will not be reimbursed as outpatient medication. Contact the MCO for specific requirements for the use of the C-19 and HCFA 1500.

Who to contact

1. **PBM** — SXC Health Solutions is BWC's PBM and is the sole processor of drug bills for state-fund, black lung and Marine Industrial Fund claims. It can answer inquiries regarding the Outpatient Medication Prior Authorization program. To contact SXC, call 1-800-OHIOBWC, and listen to the options.

2. **BWC pharmacy program** — Send questions or comments about outpatient drug benefits, the Outpatient Medication Prior Authorization Department or other related matters to BWC's pharmacy staff at pharmacy.benefits@bwc.state.oh.us or by mail to: Pharmacy Department, Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Medical Service Division, 30 W. Spring St., 21st floor, Columbus, OH 43215-2256.

3. **MCOs** — Since BWC's PBM does not reimburse for durable medical equipment or medical supplies purchased at a pharmacy, pharmacy providers may need to contact the injured worker's MCO regarding these services. To contact the correct MCO using the injured worker's claim number, contact a BWC call center agent at 1-800-OHIOBWC, or log on to ohiobwc.com, click Medical Providers, then Services.