

Pharmacy Benefit News

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Specialty Spotlight

Commentary: Prior Authorizations for Medications Under the Medical Benefit

On a daily basis we are asked about medications that are covered under Medicare Part B and billed under medical benefits. Medications requiring Prior Authorization (PA) include specialty medications, as well as, adjunctive and symptomatic therapy. Often therapies are denied based on information provided in the claim, and just as often the incorrect HCPCS codes are used for the adjunctive therapies.

The following comments are meant to provide some instructions, clarity and recommendations to improve the billing and payment of medications under the medical benefit. These comments are based on our experience, results of audits and analyses, as well as, coding errors.

Why do Prior Authorizations get rejected?

There are several reasons for a Prior Authorization to be rejected, including excessive quantity, off-label use, or simply citing a diagnosis which is not approved for that diagnosis, among others, as listed below.

Prior Authorization Rejection Reasons:

1. Missing or Invalid Provider ID
2. Missing or Invalid Drug Name
3. Missing or Invalid Billing Code
4. Missing or Invalid NDC
5. Missing Prior Auth Number
6. Missing or Invalid Dates of Service
7. Incorrect Quantity for Dates of Service

8. Service Is Not Consistent With or Not Covered For This Diagnosis Code
9. Epogen Units Exceeded
10. Missing, Incomplete, or Invalid Drug Name, Strength or Dosage
11. Drug Invalid for Gender or Age of Patient
12. Missing or Invalid ICD-10
13. Concomitant Therapy or Drug Interaction Question
14. Non-Medication Items and Supplies
15. Combination Treatment Not Approved
16. Further Patient Information Is Required
17. Non-Billable ICD-10 Code

Common Mistake: Chemotherapy Educated Nausea or Vomiting

We have noticed a pattern in the Prior Authorizations, in which malignant neoplasm is being cited when requesting medication(s) which are approved for chemotherapy induced nausea (Table 2). For your benefit, we have included a table below which lists appropriate ICD-10 codes (Table 1) for these cases, as an example.

Please note these should be the secondary diagnosis, the primary being Neoplasm.

Table 1

ICD10	Description
R11.2	Nausea with vomiting; unspecified
R11.0	Nausea
R11.10	Vomiting, unspecified
R11.11	Vomiting without nausea
R11.12	Projectile vomiting

Table 2

JCode	Description
J1260	Dolasetron mesylate, 10 mg, injection
J1626	Granisetron hydrochloride, 100 mcg, injection
J2405	Ondansetron HCl, per 1 mg, injection
J2469	Palonosetron HCl, 25 mcg, inj.
Q0162	Ondansetron 1 mg, oral, fda approved prescription anti-emetic, for use as a complete therapeutic substitute for an iv anti-emetic at the time of chemotherapy treatment, not to exceed a 48 hour dosage regimen
Q0166	Granisetron HCl, 1 mg, oral, FDA approved prescription anti-emetic, for use as a complete therapeutic substitute for an IV anti-emetic at the time of chemotherapy treatment, not to exceed a 24-hour dosage regimen
S0091	Granisetron hydrochloride, 1 mg, inj. (for circumstances falling under the Medicare statute, use Q0166)
S0119	Ondansetron, oral, 4 mg (for circumstances falling under the Medicare Statute, use Q0162)
S0174	Dolasetron mesylate, oral, 50 mg (for circumstances falling under Medicare statute, use Q0180.)

Prior Authorizations can serve as a great tool to ensure that the proper course of treatment is given but oftentimes it is seen as a roadblock to treatment. By educating all healthcare professionals involved in the process, more Prior Authorizations may be properly completed, submitted and approved.

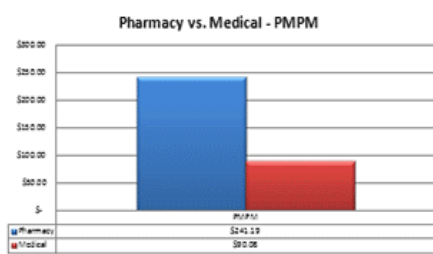
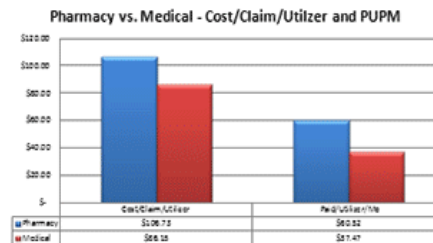
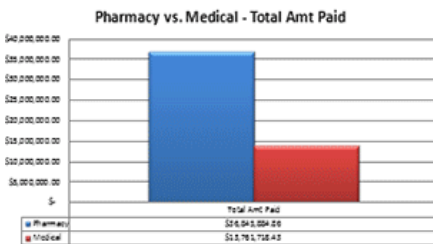
Pro Pharma has the expertise, tools and resources to assist you and your organization in the Prior Authorization process.

For More Information Contact Pro Pharma At:
 (888) 701-5438
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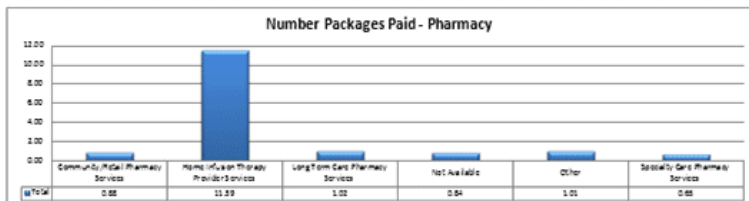
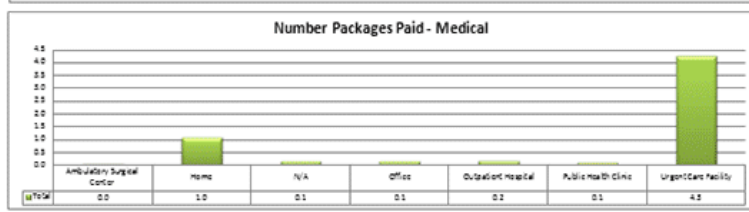
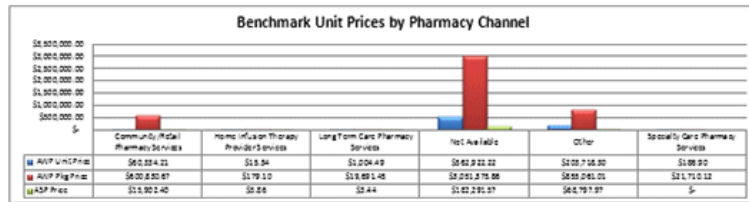
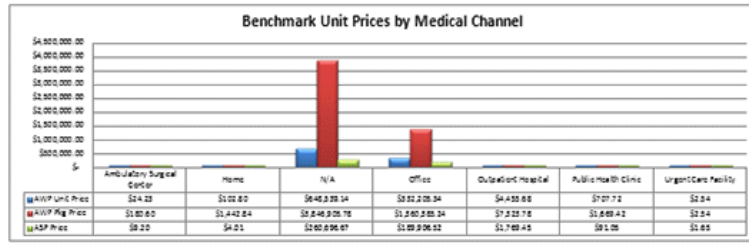
Find out more

Pro Pharma Announces New Medical Specialty Analytical Report

Financial Performance



Location Of Service Differentials



COST ACCOUNTING

BENCHMARKING

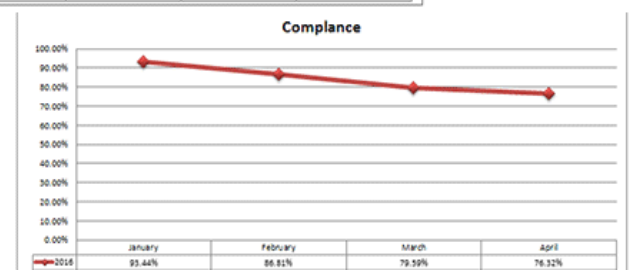
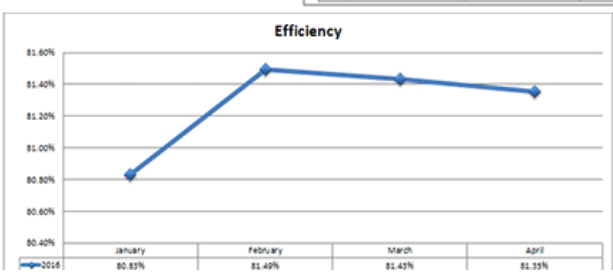
AUDIT RESULTS

INTERVENTIONS - R3000C CMR Analysis

INTERVENTIONS - PSQ Analysis

OUTCOMES

- No Compliance
- AB - 16290 - H
 - AB - 16797 - MD
 - AC - 18213 - J
 - AD - 10331 - MD
 - AD - 14079 - MD
 - AD - 16098 - MD
 - AG - 13563 - MD
 - AG - 17404 - ZA
 - AH - 12755 - MD
 - AH - 17000 - D



CANOGA PARK, Calif. - May 12, 2016 - PRLog -- Pro Pharma Pharmaceutical Consultants, Inc. is pleased to announce a new addition to their analytical reports: **Medical Specialty Analyses**. This innovative report combines integrated datasets of medical, pharmacy, laboratory, genomics and enrollment to illustrate the full picture of the medical benefit performance.

Specialty data analytics is not new to Pro Pharma: health plans, government entities and self-insured employers have long had the utmost interest in integrated datasets, and most particularly medical analyses.

"Pro Pharma has been analyzing clinical therapeutics across medical and pharmacy benefits for many years," states Carol Stern, CEO. Pro Pharma's latest specialty analytics provide an incomparable view of analytical reporting accessible via secure cloud both from desktop and mobile devices. According to Dr. Craig Stern, President, **"This approach allows benefits, financial and clinical managers the ability to "drill down" from a very high level of analytical reporting, to a detailed view, including, but not limited, to the following:"**

1. Total Specialty Medication Spend Across All Locations of Service
2. Comparative Usage, Cost, and Utilization
3. Cost Accounting, Discounting And Pricing Comps for Every Penny Spent
4. Pre and Post Authorization Evaluations, Testing and Validation of All Claims Against Approved Diagnoses, FDA Labeling, Days' Supply and Dosing Standards
5. Compliance Testing of Claims Validity and Completeness
6. Location of Service Optimization - Centers of Excellence and Best-In-Class Comparisons
7. Evaluation of Outcomes of Various Therapies - Adverse Drug Reaction, Drug-Induced Disease Risk Profiles, Compliance, Drug Holiday Evaluations, and Genomics Testing

Pro Pharma analyses are directed to optimizing management and oversight of specialty medications to meet state and federal regulatory requirements. From enterprise to patient-specific issues, Pro Pharma's analytics provide all of the tools payers require to manage this demanding area of therapeutics.

Following Claim Adjudication Rules and Targeting Best Practices Leads to Significant Cost Savings

For more information about PRO PHARMA, please visit <http://www.propharmaconsultants.com>

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Pro Pharma Pharmaceutical Consultants, Inc. has assisted payer and providers for over 29 years to maintain quality while controlling costs.

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