



April 15, 2018

TO: MO HealthNet Prescribers

RE: MO HealthNet Opioid Prescription Intervention (OPI) Program FOLLOW-UP REQUIRED

Providers were notified on or about March 1, 2018 that the Department of Social Services – MO HealthNet Division (MHD) has begun working collaboratively with the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Health and Senior Services to enhance our interactions with providers and accelerate the goals of the OPI Program. MHD has developed clinical policy based on best practices including the CDC 2016 Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain. In addition, new and/or updated Quality Indicators™ (QI's) were incorporated into the most recent OPI mailing that was sent to you.

You are being contacted to advise you that a follow-up response/action is needed regarding your prescribing activity for MO HealthNet participants flagging on one or more Quality Indicators™ (QI'S). Below is a summary of your prescribing activity and the associated QI's based on pharmacy paid claims data:

Patient ID	Patient Name	Quality Indicators™
0123456	SMITH, SAM	890
2345678	BROWN, BILL	849
3456789	GREEN, MARTHA	896

**SAMPLE QI  
DATA ONLY**

**ASSOCIATED QUALITY INDICATORS™**

890—Use of opioids for 60 or more days in the absence of a diagnosis supporting chronic use

892—Use of buprenorphine along with another opioid

899—Possible Early Opioid Dependence: Initial use of opioids for four months in absence of a diagnosis supporting chronic use

We are notifying providers that MO HealthNet Division requires you to take action as noted below:

**1. PROVIDER RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 20 BUSINESS DAYS FROM DATE OF THIS LETTER**

MO HealthNet requires a timely written response from providers who have been mailed packets identifying prescription activity flagging one or more Quality Indicators™. The response(s) must address issues for each of the QI's identified from the OPI mailing and should include any relevant information to the prescribing activity. A feedback form was included with the most recent OPI mailing and may be used to facilitate provider response.

Send ALL provider responses to:

Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance (MMAC) Unit  
 PO Box 6500  
 Jefferson City, MO 65102-6500  
 Fax: (573) 526-4375  
 E-Mail: MMAC.OPICompliance@dss.mo.gov

**Please note that failure to provide a written response will result in referral to the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, your licensing board, and/or your employer.**

**2. CLINICAL REVIEW/PEER-TO-PEER CONSULTATION AVAILABLE**

Providers may request a peer-to-peer consultation in response to clinical issues identified from the OPI mailing. The feedback form provided in the OPI mailing packet may be used to request a peer-to-peer consultation with an expert clinician. In addition, MO HealthNet will initiate a clinical review through its established review and audit process of any documentation and will engage prescribers as appropriate. Providers are encouraged to contact MMAC for assistance, questions, or concerns.

**Additional Resources**

MO HealthNet is working to provide additional tools for clinicians in the management of chronic pain. In the near future, MHD anticipates having coverage for alternative therapies for chronic pain for specific conditions. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

MO HealthNet will be diligent in our interactions with prescribers. Please contact us at (573) 751-6961 if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for the care you provide to our MO HealthNet participants.

Dr. Steve Corsi, Director  
Department of Social Services

Randall Williams, MD, Director  
Department of Health and Senior

Mark Stringer, Director  
Department of Mental Health