

Texas Closed Drug Formulary

Pursuant to direction from the Texas Legislature, the Texas Department of Insurance - Division of Workers' Compensation earlier this year adopted a Closed Drug Formulary. The Formulary is effective 09-01-2011 for all new claims with dates of injury on and after that date.

The Formulary uses the Official Disability Guidelines (ODG) Appendix A drug list to prohibit the dispensing of certain prescription drugs for a Texas workers compensation claim without first obtaining preauthorization. The ODG Appendix A, often referred to as the "N-list" because it denotes excluded prescription drugs with the letter N, denotes prescription drugs that present significant concerns regarding long-term deleterious effects. The list of excluded drugs can also be found on the Division's website under the [Pharmacy page](#).

Travelers has integrated the new Formulary requirements into our workflow to handle preauthorization requests. Working with our Claim partners, Travelers has developed a preauthorization process to seamlessly integrate prescription drug preauthorization into our existing preauthorization process. Travelers' Certified Case Manager nurses will screen preauthorization requests for approval. Any requests that require additional review will be forwarded to qualified physician reviewers to determine the medical appropriateness of the requested prescriptions. Included in this process are steps to ensure continuity of care in the delivery of appropriate prescriptions. Travelers will proactively work with providers and pharmacists to ensure prompt processing of non-Formulary requests. Drugs excluded from the Closed Drug Formulary that are dispensed without a preauthorization approval may not be reimbursed.

Claims with dates of injury prior to 09-01-2011 will be transitioned into the Closed Drug Formulary in 2013. It will be a two-step process of identifying and notifying the injured employees and their medical providers that N-list drugs are being prescribed for their claim prior to the application of the Formulary on 09-01-2013. Travelers will work with the injured employees and their providers to transition employees off of N-list drugs that do not meet medical necessity criteria.

Through the use of the Formulary, Travelers will continue to provide high-quality medical care to injured workers while limiting the costs, both financial and personal, of inappropriate prescription drug use and abuse. As Travelers continues to closely monitor the appropriateness of prescription drug use, the employer should see benefits in both cost-savings on prescription drugs and fewer medical consequences to their employees from inappropriate prescription drug use.

If you have questions, please contact your Claim Account Executive or either of the local Texas Claim Centers in Dallas (800-238-6208) or Houston (800-235-3610).