

PROGRAM: SUBXONE AND SUBUTEX (BUPRENORPHINE)

DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this document is to provide approval criteria and guidelines for prior authorization of benefits for Subxone and Subutex (buprenorphine). Suboxone and Subutex (buprenorphine) are indicated for the treatment of opioid dependence. Claims submitted without obtaining prior authorization of benefits will reject on the pharmacy claim system.

IMPACTED FORMULARY MEDICATIONS

Subxone

Subutex

APPROVAL DURATION AND QUANTITY LIMITS

Approval Duration:

9 months for Suboxone renewals

9 months for Subutex (buprenorphine) renewals in pregnancy

3 months for Subxone initial therapy

3 months for Subutex (buprenorphine) initial therapy in pregnancy

One time fill ONLY (30 days) for Subutex (buprenorphine) in non-pregnancy

APPROVAL CRITERIA

For **Subutex** (buprenorphine) requests for **initial therapy** in a **non-pregnant** patient:

1. drug being requested is Subutex (buprenorphine)
2. patient is not pregnant
3. patient has not been receiving Subxone or Subutex (buprenorphine)
4. patient is 16 years of age or older
5. patient has a diagnosis of opioid dependence
6. prescriber is certified through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to prescribe Subutex (buprenorphine) and provided registration number
7. prescription is part of an overall treatment program (e.g., self-help groups, counseling, provide ongoing care, vocational training)

For **Subutex** (buprenorphine) requests for **initial therapy** in a **pregnant** patient:

1. drug being requested is Subutex (buprenorphine)
2. patient is pregnant
3. patient has not been receiving Subxone or Subutex (buprenorphine)
4. patient is 16 years of age or older
5. patient has a diagnosis of opioid dependence
6. prescriber is certified through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to prescribe Subutex (buprenorphine) and provided registration number
7. prescription is part of an overall treatment program (e.g., self-help groups, counseling, provide ongoing care, vocational training)

For **Subutex** requests for **renewal therapy** in a **pregnant** patient:

1. drug being requested is Subutex (buprenorphine)
2. patient is pregnant
3. patient has been receiving Suboxone or Subutex (buprenorphine)
4. patient is not receiving any other opioids
5. prescriber is evaluating random urine drug screens and assessment of the patient's progress (e.g., relapse, progress/accomplishment of treatment goals)
6. patient is 16 years of age or older
7. patient has a diagnosis of opioid dependence
8. prescriber is certified through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to prescribe Subutex (buprenorphine) and provided registration number
9. prescription is part of an overall treatment program (e.g., self-help groups, counseling, provide ongoing care, vocational training)

For **Suboxone** requests for **initial therapy**:

1. request is not for Subutex (buprenorphine)
2. patient has not been receiving Suboxone or Subutex (buprenorphine)
3. patient is 16 years of age or older
4. patient has a diagnosis of opioid dependence
5. prescriber is certified through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to prescribe Subutex (buprenorphine) and provided registration number
6. prescription is part of an overall treatment program (e.g., self-help groups, counseling, provide ongoing care, vocational training)

For **Suboxone** requests for **renewal therapy**:

1. request is not for Subutex (buprenorphine)
2. patient has been receiving Suboxone or Subutex (buprenorphine)
3. patient is not receiving any other opioids
4. prescriber is evaluating random urine drug screens and assessment of the patient's progress (e.g., relapse, progress/accomplishment of treatment goals)
5. patient is 16 years of age or older
6. patient has a diagnosis of opioid dependence
7. prescriber is certified through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to prescribe Subutex (buprenorphine) and provided registration number
8. prescription is part of an overall treatment program (e.g., self-help groups, counseling, provide ongoing care, vocational training)

LOOK BACK CRITERIA IN CLAIMS SYSTEM

Not applicable