
HOUSE BILL 2565

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representative Schmick

Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to drug and gene therapy payment for medicaid
2 managed care organizations; amending RCW 70.14.050; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 74.09 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.14.050 and 2003 1st sp.s. c 29 s 9 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Each agency administering a state purchased health care
8 program as defined in RCW 41.05.011(~~(+2)~~) shall, in cooperation with
9 other agencies, take any necessary actions to control costs without
10 reducing the quality of care when reimbursing for or purchasing
11 drugs. To accomplish this purpose, participating agencies may
12 establish an evidence-based prescription drug program.

13 (2) In developing the evidence-based prescription drug program
14 authorized by this section, agencies:

15 (a) Shall prohibit reimbursement for drugs that are determined to
16 be ineffective by the United States food and drug administration;

17 (b) Shall adopt rules in order to ensure that less expensive
18 generic drugs will be substituted for brand name drugs in those
19 instances where the quality of care is not diminished;

20 (c) Where possible, may authorize reimbursement for drugs only in
21 economical quantities;

1 (d) May limit the prices paid for drugs by such means as
2 negotiated discounts from pharmaceutical manufacturers, central
3 purchasing, volume contracting, or setting maximum prices to be paid;

4 (e) Shall consider the approval of drugs with lower abuse
5 potential in substitution for drugs with significant abuse potential;

6 (f) May take other necessary measures to control costs of drugs
7 without reducing the quality of care; and

8 (g) Shall adopt rules governing practitioner endorsement and use
9 of any list developed as part of the program authorized by this
10 section.

11 (3) Agencies shall provide for reasonable exceptions, consistent
12 with RCW 69.41.190, to any list developed as part of the program
13 authorized by this section.

14 (4)(a) Agencies shall establish an independent pharmacy and
15 therapeutics committee to evaluate the effectiveness of prescription
16 drugs in the development of the program authorized by this section.

17 (b) The pharmacy and therapeutics committee established by the
18 health care authority shall include among its voting members a
19 representative from each managed care organization that is contracted
20 to administer a medicaid managed care plan. The representative of
21 each managed care organization must be either the chief medical
22 officer, medical director, or pharmacy director from the managed care
23 organization.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 74.09
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 Any contracts with managed care organizations to provide medical
27 assistance under this chapter must include the following limitations
28 with regard to the establishment of a preferred drug list common to
29 all managed care organizations.

30 (1) The financial responsibility for any new drugs and gene
31 therapies that receive the approval of the federal food and drug
32 administration and the centers for medicare and medicaid services
33 subsequent to the adoption of monthly capitated premiums, shall be
34 borne by the authority and not included in the premiums until:

35 (a)(i) A clinical work group of the authority and managed care
36 organizations has reviewed the new drug or gene therapy to determine
37 its medical necessity criteria and potential cost as it may impact
38 current monthly capitated premiums and made recommendations regarding

1 whether it should be included in the monthly capitated premiums prior
2 to the next scheduled adjustment of the premiums; and

3 (ii) The authority's pharmacy and therapeutics committee has
4 reviewed the new drug or gene therapy and considered the
5 recommendations of the clinical work group and determined the
6 immediate inclusion in the monthly capitated premiums to have no more
7 than a negligible increase on those premiums; or

8 (b) The next scheduled adjustment of the monthly capitated
9 premiums has occurred with consideration of the cost of the new drugs
10 included in the premium.

11 (2) The financial responsibility for any new drugs and gene
12 therapies that (a) receive the approval of the federal food and drug
13 administration, the centers for medicare and medicaid services, and
14 the pharmacy and therapeutics committee; and (b) are determined by
15 the pharmacy and therapeutics committee to be high cost drugs or gene
16 therapies, according to criteria established by a work group of the
17 authority and managed care organizations, shall be borne by the
18 authority and not included in the monthly capitated premiums. The
19 analysis prepared by the clinical work group in subsection (1)(a)(i)
20 of this section shall inform the deliberations of the pharmacy and
21 therapeutics committee's determination of whether or not a drug meets
22 the criteria to qualify as a high cost drug or gene therapy. The
23 authority shall bear the financial responsibility for the new high
24 cost drugs and gene therapies for a period of two years while cost
25 and utilization data are collected. During the two-year period that
26 the authority bears the fiscal responsibility, managed care
27 organizations must be reimbursed by the authority on a fee-for-
28 service basis. The new high cost drug and gene therapies shall be
29 included in the monthly capitated premiums at the next scheduled
30 adjustment of the premiums following the two-year period.

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