



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

OHCA 2014-55

November 21, 2014

**RE: Opioid Analgesic Quantity Limits – No More than 4 Short Acting Opioid Analgesics—
Effective November 10, 2014**

Dear Provider,

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is engaged in a statewide effort to reduce the misuse of some prescription drugs which has resulted in a serious public health concern. While opioid pain relievers play an important role in pain management, their abuse and misuse has become a growing public health issue in Oklahoma as well as nationwide.

Beginning **November 10, 2014**, a quantity limit edit was implemented in three (3) phases for SoonerCare pharmacy claims. The purpose of this clinical decision support rule is to assist in the prevention of SoonerCare members' abuse, misuse, and diversion of opioid products.

The following short-acting opioid pain medications will be affected by this quantity limit:

Date of Quantity Limit Implementation	Medications Affected
Phase 1 November 10, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hydromorphone Immediate Release ProductsMorphine Immediate Release ProductsCodeine and Codeine Combination ProductsOxymorphone Immediate Release Products
Phase 2 December 10, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oxycodone Immediate Release ProductsOxycodone Combination Products
Phase 3 January 21, 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hydrocodone Combination Products

Chronic opioid analgesic quantity limits will apply to short-acting opioid therapies greater than 10 days. This edit will be triggered when a member receives a prescription greater than a 10-day supply and the quantity is greater than four (4) per day. For therapies determined to be long-term (greater than a 10-day supply), the maximum quantity that will be reimbursed is four (4) dosage units per day.

Thank you for helping OHCA ensure the services you provide to SoonerCare members are appropriate and clinically safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garth L. Splinter, MD".

Garth L. Splinter, MD
State Medicaid Director