DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy	REFERENCE NUMBER: WA.PHAR.01
EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/2007	POLICY NAME: 30-Day Emergency Supply of
	Medication
REVIEWED/REVISED DATE:	RETIRED DATE: N/A
02/008, 02/009, 02/2010, 04/2010,	
05/2011, 02/2012, 02/2013, 02/2014,	
08/2014, 08/2015, 03/2016, 01/2019,	
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#### SCOPE:

This policy applies to Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc. (CCW) and Pharmacy Services.

#### PURPOSE:

Provide a process for dispensing a prescribed medication to a member by a licensed pharmacist who has used his or her professional judgment in identifying that the member has an emergency medical condition for which lack of immediate access to pharmaceutical treatment would result in, (a) placing the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child, in serious jeopardy; (b) serious impairment to bodily functions; or (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

### POLICY:

CCW authorizes pharmacies to provide up to a 30-day supply of medication in situations where an emergency fill is needed. The Health Plan must be contacted within 7 days or before filling the medication again (whichever is sooner). Medical necessity requirements will be applied to any future fills of the same medication, but will be waived to ensure payment of the emergency fill.

Centene or its subsidiaries does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, nor exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination under any applicable Company health program or activity.

### **PROCEDURE:**

CCW will cover emergency fills without authorization when dispensed by a contracted pharmacy. The dispensing pharmacist will be allowed to dispense up to a 30-day supply of medication in situations such as:

1. A licensed pharmacist has used his or her professional judgment in identifying that the member has an emergency medical condition for which lack of immediate access to pharmaceutical treatment would result in, (a) placing the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the

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woman or her unborn child, in serious jeopardy; (b) serious impairment to bodily functions; or (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

- 2. The prescriber is unavailable to choose a preferred drug alternative.
- 3. The PA request is incomplete and cannot be processed by Pharmacy Services.
- The prescription is presented outside of normal business hours at Pharmacy Services. NurseWise is authorized to enter an allowance for up to a 30-day supply.
- 5. In the event of refill too soon rejections when the fill needed is due to being lost, stolen, broken or damaged, please see the WA.PHAR.05 Lost Stolen Spilled or Broken Medications policy.

The following are exclusions to this policy:

- 1. The medication has a DESI classification other than "Safe and Effective."
- 2. The medication belongs to a non-covered therapeutic category (such as appetite suppressants or infertility treatments). Drug exclusions are specific to individual health plan state regulations.
- 3. Use of the prescribed medication is contraindicated because of the member's medical condition or possible adverse drug interaction.
- 4. The medication is for a professionally administered drug or Durable Medical Equipment (DME).
- 5. The medication is for a non-contracted drug.

### REFERENCES: N/A

### ATTACHMENTS: N/A

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**DESI (Drug Efficacy Study Implementation) –** A government classification for drugs grandfathered after enactment of the 1962 Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

**Emergency Fill-** "Emergency Fill" means the dispensing of a prescribed medication to an member by a licensed pharmacist who has used his or her professional judgement in identifying that the member has an Emergency Medical Condition for which lack of immediate

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access to pharmaceutical treatment would result in, (a) placing the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child, in serious jeopardy; (b) serious impairment to bodily functions; or (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part."

**Non-Contracted Drug-** "Non-Contracted Drug" means a drug that HCA excludes from the premium payments for the AH Family Adult, AH Family Child, Apple Health State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), Apple Health Blind Disabled (AHBD), Apple Health Community Options Program Entry System (COPES), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) and Apple Health Adult Coverage (AHAC) populations when not administered in an inpatient setting.

#### **REVISION LOG**

REVISION:	DATE:
Remove from "Practitioners and Network Pharmacies" from "SCOPE" as	05/2007
those are external parties and are not to be included per template	
definition of "SCOPE".	
Replace the "formulary" with "Preferred Drug List (PDL)" throughout the	02/2008
document.	
Add the following sentence to #2. of the "PROCEDURE", "Exclusions to	02/2008
the policy" section: "Drug exclusions are specific to individual plan state	
regulations."	
Add the following instructions as the last line of the "PROCEDURE"	02/2008
section: "When a call comes in after the PBM hours of service,	
NurseWise generally enters the authorization for a 72-hour supply unless	
there are concerns regarding inappropriate use of medications or quality	
of care."	
Revised the SCOPE to include Corporate Centene Pharmacy	02/2009
Department and NurseWise.	
Clarified the PURPOSE to clearly state that the process would include	02/2009
those requests for medications that are not listed on the Preferred Drug	
List (PDL) or those requiring prior authorization.	

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Detailed the PROCEDURE and PROCESS to align with those in place at US Script.	02/2009
Revisions completed at this time were made to address clerical errors, align with NCQA standards and language, and represent the work processes in place at both the Plan level and at US Script.	02/2010
Replaced process #2 with current procedure used by US Script's Call Center. Added process #3 which outlines the request documentation by Call Center Associate. Revised processes 4, 5 and 6 to provide more specificity.	03/2010
Adjusted the 72-hour supply language for holiday timing and state requirements.	05/2011
Clerical changes removing duplicative language.	02/2012
No changes were deemed necessary.	02/2013
"Procedure" to include use of 72 hour emergency supply in the event of lost, stolen, broken or damaged supply of medication.	02/2014
Added to exclusions language to clarify new prescriptions.	02/2014
Added language regarding packaging that cannot be broken, for example Hepatitis C drugs.	02/2014
Removed language regarding packaging that cannot be broken, for example Hepatitis C drugs.	08/2014
Changed Corporate Pharmacy Team to "Pharmacy Solutions Group" in Scope section.	08/2015
Changed to increase to 30 day ER fill, from 72 Hour Corp P&P CC.PHAR.01	03/2016
Annual Review- No Changes	01/2019
Updated scope to apply to Coordinated Care of WA, Inc., Envolve Pharmacy Solutions, and its subsidiary companies.	10/2019
Added, "Centene or its subsidiaries does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, nor exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination under any applicable Company health program or activity."	
Updated "patient" to "member."	

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Added "up to" a 30 day supply.	
Changed "PBM" to "claims processing system."	
Minor grammatical updates made for better clarification.	
Added definition of an "Emergency Fill" to align with HCA contract language	01/2020
Updated purpose of the policy as well as the procedures to align with HCA contract language for dispensing a prescribed medication to a member by a licensed pharmacist who has used his or her professional judgement in identifying that the member has an Emergency Medical Condition for which lack of immediate access to pharmaceutical treatment would result in, (a) placing the health of the individual or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child, in serious jeopardy; (b) serious impairment to bodily functions; or (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part."	04/2020
or before filling the medication again (whichever is sooner). Medical necessity requirements will be applied to any future fills of the same medication, but will be waived to ensure payment of the Emergency Fill.	
Added dose change in #5 of the procedure section to address rejections due to refill-to-soon logic.	
Added professionally administered drugs, DME equipment, Hepatitis C and other medications that are contractually carved out under the list of exclusions.	
Removed process section	0.4/000.4
Annual Review- Minor grammatical updates made	04/2021
Changed "carved out" verbiage to "non-contracted"	

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Removed from the 04/2020 revision log that #4 of the procedure was removed. This information was kept in the policy.	
Updated reference to "Envolve Pharmacy Solutions" to "Pharmacy Services."	04/2022
Removed "and its subsidiary companies" verbiage from the scope.	
Updated verbiage for #5 under exclusions section	
Added the definition of a non-contracted drug.	
Minor grammatical updates	

### POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL

The electronic approval retained in RSA Archer, the Company's P&P management software, is considered equivalent to a signature.