

Bulletin #811

March 25, 2011

Reimbursement of Methadone Claims

The New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program (NBPDP) will apply the following changes to the criteria for reimbursement of methadone claims.

Dispensing Fee

The dispensing fee for each eligible methadone claim will change as follows:

\$11.75	Effective April 1, 2011
\$10.60	Effective June 1, 2011
\$ 9.40	Effective September 1, 2011

Electronic billing is to be completed by the pharmacy on a daily basis for the NBPDP beneficiary receiving witnessed and carry doses of methadone. One claim is permitted per day.

Eligible Methadone Benefits

Effective April 1, 2011, Metadol™ 1 mg/mL oral solution and Metadol™ 10 mg/mL oral concentrate will be added to the NBPDP Formulary under Special Authorization with the same criteria as for compounded methadone oral solution:

1. For the treatment of severe cancer-related or chronic non-malignant pain as an alternative to other opioid.
2. For the treatment of opioid dependence.

These products can be used as an alternative to methadone powder and are reimbursed at the same price as compounded methadone oral solution.

Note: Requests for coverage of Metadol™ tablets will continue to be considered under Special Authorization for cancer-related or chronic non-malignant pain only.

Maximum Allowable Price (MAP)

Effective April 1, 2011, a MAP of \$0.0050 per mg will be applied to compounded methadone oral solution, Metadol™ oral solution and concentrate as outlined in the table below.

Product	Indication	PIN/DIN	MAP (per mg)
Compounded methadone oral solution	Opioid dependence	00999734	0.0050
Compounded methadone oral solution	Chronic pain	00999801	0.0050
Metadol™ 1 mg/mL oral solution	Opioid Dependence Chronic Pain	02247694	0.0050
Metadol™ 10 mg/mL oral concentrate	Opioid Dependence Chronic Pain	02241377	0.0050

Claims for these products should be billed using the applicable PIN/DIN.

The unit of measure (quantity) for billing compounded methadone oral solution, Metadol™ oral solution and concentrate claims is in milligrams. For example, a 70 mg dose of methadone should be billed as a quantity of 70.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 1-800-332-3691.