



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
**Department for Medicaid Services**

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**(Updated) Prior Authorization Guidance – Effective 2/1/2021**

- Prior authorization (PA) requests are removed for all **inpatient** Medicaid services provided by Kentucky Medicaid enrolled inpatient hospitals (Provider Type 01). For MCOs, this includes both participating and non-participating providers
- Prior authorization (PA) requests continue to be removed for all Medicaid covered substance use and behavioral health services
- Medicaid (including MCOs) will apply their full utilization management (UM) programs, including prior authorizations for all outpatient Medicaid services, except those with a COVID diagnosis. Outpatient substance use and behavioral health services are excluded
- Prior authorizations will remain in place for all pharmacy benefits and products listed on the physician administered drug lists, except for medication assisted treatment (MAT) products (i.e. Sublocade)
- Prior authorizations should be lifted for all **preferred drug products** that fall into the below drug classes **IF** an automatic prior authorization process (smartPA) cannot be completed by 2/1/2021. Once the smartPA is created, it may be placed on the below drug classes.
  - Central Nervous System: Anticonvulsants
  - Central Nervous System: Antipsychotics: Second Generation: Second Generation (Atypical) and Injectable
  - Central Nervous System: Stimulants and Related Agents
- Notification requirements will remain in place for inpatient services in order to facilitate care management, COVID reporting/tracking, and discharge planning
- The Concurrent Review process will remain in place for non-COVID diagnoses to support discharge planning, placement of members, care management, and facility capacity
- In order to facilitate provider payment, requirements for prior authorization of non-Kentucky Medicaid enrolled providers will remain in place
- Medicaid (including MCOs) will continue to monitor for fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA) activity
- This guidance will be in effect through 3/31/2021. DMS will re-evaluate at the end of February 2021