



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation

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memo

To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Matthew Zurek, Deputy Commissioner, Health Care Management and System Monitoring

Date: October 21, 2015

RE: Addition of Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin as "N" Status Drugs to Appendix A, ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary from the Official Disability Guidelines – Treatment in Workers' Comp (ODG)

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) is notifying system participants that the Work Loss Data Institute (WLDI), publisher of the *ODG*, will make changes affecting two drugs listed in Appendix A, *ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary*. Effective February 1, 2016, Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin will change status from "Y" to "N."

The purpose of notifying system participants is to allow time to review and prepare for transition of Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin to the "N" status drug list. TDI-DWC encourages system participants to begin discussing and coordinating the ongoing course of treatment if Fentanyl transdermal patches and/or MS-Contin are currently being prescribed. Prescriptions for these two drugs will require preauthorization approval starting February 1, 2016.

In preparation for the transition of Fentanyl transdermal patches and MS-Contin to the "N" drug status list of ODG's Appendix A, TDI-DWC is preparing outreach efforts to inform and work with injured employees, prescribing doctors, pharmacies, and insurance carriers.

If there are any questions regarding the information in this memorandum, contact Comp Connection for Health Care Providers at (800) 372-7713, option 3 or by email at medben@tdi.texas.gov.