

POLICY AND PROCEDURE	
TITLE: Vacation Override	
DEPARTMENT: Medical Management - Pharmacy	POLICY #: PH22
EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/12/17	REVIEW/REVISION DATE: 09/17, 12/18, 05/19
COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: P&T 05/14/2019; PRC 06/19/2019 QMUM 07/10/2019	RETIRE DATE: None
PRODUCT TYPE: Medi-Cal	REPLACES: None

I. PURPOSE

To establish conditions to furnish medications to members going on vacation.

II. POLICY

- A. The Health Plan of San Joaquin's (HPSJ) Pharmacy Department shall allow for a single fill of currently prescribed medications to be refilled early for the purposes of Vacation Supply or for Medication Synchronization.
- B. While on vacation members may obtain their drugs from participating pharmacies when travelling inside the United States in 30 day increments.
- C. If planning to travel outside the United States members will have to obtain a vacation supply before travelling outside the United States.
- D. The vacation supply will be limited to 90 days.
- E. If the member plans to be out of the US for more than 90 days, HPSJ will not authorize beyond 90 days because Medi-Cal eligibility is questionable when a member is absent from the area for more than 2 months.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. Members travelling outside of California, but staying within the United States:
 - 1. They can fill or refill their prescriptions at any participating pharmacy in the United States. Their drug benefits do not change.
 - 2. An exception is Schedule-II Controlled Drugs which can only be filled in California. The member's provider will have to write a prescription for a vacation supply (max of 90 days), a prior authorization must be submitted, and the member will have to get it filled in California.
- B. When a member is planning to travel outside the United States:
 - 1. They should obtain a vacation supply prior to their vacation. HPSJ has a universal prior authorization (PA) code, 9999987, to be used by the pharmacy. Use of the code will allow one fill (up to 90 days)

of maintenance, non-controlled medications to be filled. The Vacation/Medication Synchronization Override Code can only be used once per drug per strength per 365 days.

2. If the vacation supply is for a controlled medication, then a prior authorization must be submitted.
- C. HPSJ will monitor the use of this override code.
1. If a pattern of abuse of the Vacation/Medication Synchronization Override Code may result in suspension of the code for the pharmacy in question.
 2. A pharmacy may re-apply in 12 months to use the override code by written petition.

IV. ATTACHMENT(S)

None

V. REFERENCES

None

VI. REGULATORY AGENCY APPROVALS

DHCS Approved on (pending).

VII. REVISION HISTORY

STATUS	DATE REVISED	REVISION SUMMARY
Initial	09/12/17	Creation of policy to explain the vacation override process.
Reviewed	12/11/18	No content change, annual review.
Reviewed	05/14/19	No content change, updated policy template, annual review.

Health Plan of San Joaquin Approval: Signatures on File in C360