



**Hemophilia Council of California (HCC)
Statement on Access to Factor and Other Medications Under CalRX**

Background on Blood Clotting Factor Prescriptions and SARs:

What Is Blood Clotting Factor?

Blood clotting factor is a lifesaving and life sustaining infused medication for people with hemophilia and other related rare bleeding disorders. Factor prevents internal bleeding into joints and prevents brain hemorrhaging in our patients. Blood clotting factor has been “carved out” of Medi-Cal Managed Care in California since 2014 and has a unique reimbursement methodology. Patients currently do not have much difficulty in accessing their prescribed factor or other medications and ancillary medical supplies in a timely manner to treat their hemophilia or related bleeding disorders.

What is CalRX?

CalRX is a comprehensive proposal put forth by Governor Gavin Newsom as part of his proposed State Budget to make a variety of changes to how pharmacy services are administered in California starting January 1, 2021. One of the components of CalRX is to have Magellan Medicaid handle SARs and payment for all drugs in Medi-Cal. See link here: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pharmacy/Pages/Medi-CalRX.aspx>

How Does It Work Currently in California?

Patients see their hematologist (specialist) at least once a year in their federally approved Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC) in California and get their prescription for factor, other medications and ancillary medical supplies. The patients can get their prescriptions filled at either their 340(b)pharmacy affiliated with their HTC, from a specialty pharmacy or PBM of their choice. If they are a public pay patient, their 340(b)pharmacy, specialty pharmacy or PBM sends a Service Authorization Request (SAR) to DHCS for approval.

If patients ever have difficulty obtaining their prescribed factor or other related medications and ancillary medical supplies, in a timely fashion, they can contact the Hemophilia Council of CA (HCC) and we can troubleshoot by contacting DHCS: Medi-Cal, CCS and or GHPP programs and generally can get the issue resolved very quickly, as trained staff and nurses work for these programs and have experience and familiarity with our patients.

What Needs to Take Place Under CalRX?

The Hemophilia Council of CA (HCC) wants to ensure that once CalRX is fully implemented that our patients are able to easily access their blood clotting factor, related medications and ancillary medical supplies via the SAR process, as is done today.

Will the staff at Magellan Medicaid – the contractor for CalRX – have sufficient trained staff on hand to be able to understand factor and other SARs for bleeding disorders patients in the same manner in which the CCS and GHPP staff handles those SARs today? Will there be trained staff on hand during the end of the week or on a Friday afternoon for urgent requests?

At this point in time, HCC recommends continued discussions with DHCS and leaving pharmacy authorizations with CCS and GHPP programs instead of sending those SARs to Magellan Medicaid on January 1, 2021.

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