



SoonerCare Fax Blast

January 8, 2010

SUBJECT: Prescription Limit Change

By now, you should have received a letter from OHCA detailing several changes to the SoonerCare program. Due to the state revenue shortfall, pharmacy benefits have been revised effective January 1, 2010.

The total number of allowed prescriptions has not changed for anyone. Adults age 21 and older will still be allowed up to six prescriptions per month, but now only two of those prescriptions can be brand-name drugs. The other four prescriptions must be generics.

This change does not affect adults who reside in a nursing facility, or intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded, or for those who participate in one of the home and community based services waivers, such as the Advantage program.

There is no prescription limit for members under age 21.

The dispensing limit remains as the greater of 100 units or a 34 day supply for most maintenance medications.

Drugs exempt from the prescription limits include: Antineoplastics, anti-retroviral agents, certain prescriptions that require frequent laboratory monitoring, birth control prescriptions, over the counter contraceptives, hemophilia drugs, compensable smoking cessation products, certain carrier or diluent solutions used in compounds, and drugs used for the treatment of tuberculosis.

Your willingness to work with us in this time of change is appreciated. The OHCA Board has taken action to reduce SoonerCare expenditures because of declining state revenues and increased program costs. These changes are being made to comply with the Oklahoma Constitution, Article X, Section 23, which prohibits a state agency from spending more money than is allocated.