

Network Pharmacy Weekly



EXPRESS SCRIPTS®

August 6, 2015

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Opioid Misuse Leading to Chronic Conditions (Part 2: Resurgence of HIV)

HIV infection is also on the rise due to opiate abuse. The state of Indiana is seeing the worst outbreak of HIV in decades. Health officials have confirmed 149 cases of HIV in Austin, Indiana since December 2014. These cases stem from needle sharing among people who injected a liquefied version of the painkiller Opana.

Today, 1.2 million Americans over 13 are living with HIV and about a fourth of new infections occur in people 13-24. The median monthly cost per HIV prescription is more than \$1000.

Over the next three years, both hepatitis C and HIV treatments are expected to increase significantly in per-member-per-year annual spend.

Concerns of Overprescribing

Recent concerns have emerged with overprescribing of controlled narcotic medications, specifically schedule II and III narcotic pain medications.

In one example, schedule II and III controlled substance narcotic pain medications accounted for 66% (5,999 out of 9,050) of all prescriptions written by one prescriber. This represents nearly twice as many prescriptions per patient than the prescriber's peer group.

Early detection is critical for stopping this behavior. If you or someone you know has identified an abuse issue, please contact the Express Scripts Fraud Tip Hotline at 866.216.7096 to report suspicious activity.

For more information, visit <http://lab.express-scripts.com>.



Change for DoD Affects Diabetic Blood Glucose Test Strips

Starting **August 5, 2015**, DoD is changing its coverage of diabetic blood glucose test strips for TRICARE members as follows:

- Freestyle Lite and Precision Xtra are now the **ONLY** two test strip brands included on DoD's formulary, and neither of these require prior authorization.
- All other brands of test strips are non-formulary, and DO require prior authorization for both new and current users.
- Abbott is offering meters to DoD members who are prescribed a formulary test strip. Members may contact their prescriber or call Abbott Diabetes Care toll-free at 1.855.226.7427 if they have questions or need more information. Members may also visit Abbott's website: <https://www.myfreestyle.com/Tricare> to request a free meter. The meter kit contains approximately 10 test strips. (Abbott typically ships meters within 24-48 hours of the request.)

If you need assistance processing a TRICARE claim, please contact the Express Scripts DoD Pharmacy Services Help Line at 877.363.1304.

New Prior Auth for PCSK9 Inhibitors

Express Scripts has implemented a new prior authorization program for Praluent and other new PCSK9 inhibitors effective July 29, 2015.

Based on the FDA-approved guidelines, PCSK9 inhibitors are only appropriate for a subset of people with high cholesterol. The vast majority of patients with high cholesterol respond favorably to the well-studied, lower-cost statins.

Please note that if the prescribing physician pursues a clinical exception and it's approved, the prescription may need to be filled through the Express Scripts specialty pharmacy, Accredo.

Most plan sponsors' prescription benefits will require members to fill approved PCSK9 inhibitors through Accredo, with no initial fills allowed at retail. These members may need to obtain a new prescription from their physicians for this medication.



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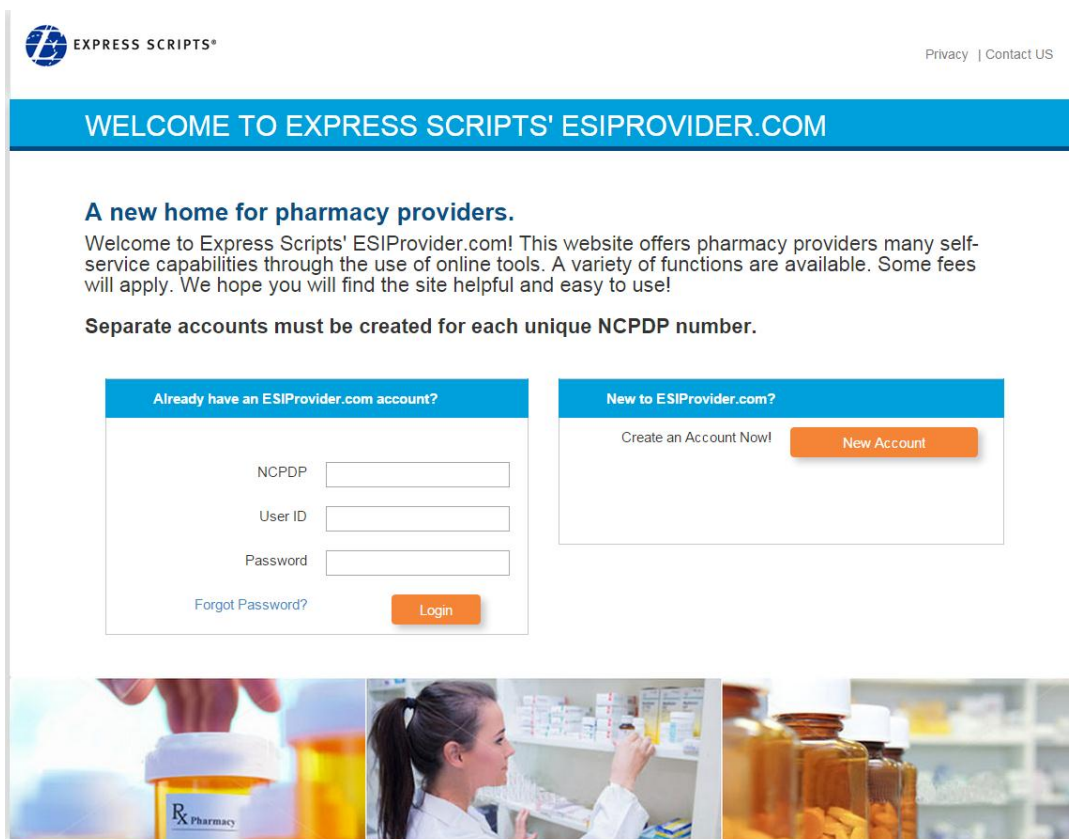
Provider Website Update Live This Week

Starting this week, the Express Scripts provider website www.esiprovider.com is offering enhancements to assist network pharmacies with various processes. For example, all providers are required to re-credential at regular intervals, and this requirement will be easier to fulfill online once the provider is notified. Visit our enhanced website to:

- Submit applications for new pharmacies
- Re-credential your pharmacy(ies)
- Submit required annual attestations
- Request a change in (PSAO) affiliation
- Provide information about a change

Network providers can now set up and sign into active accounts using their NDPDP numbers, and will be able to see the history of activity associated with a specific NCPDP. A “wizard” approach is available to guide users.

See below for esiprovider.com’s new look.



For assistance processing a claim, contact the Express Scripts Pharmacy Services Help Desk at 800.824.0898 or 800.922.1557, or visit the Pharmacist Resource Center at www.express-scripts.com/prc