New Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) Safety Edits

We would like to notify you about recent changes to our opioid limits that may impact your patients.


**Effective 10/1/2019, all QUEST Integration plans are required to have the following in place:**
1. Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) Safety Edits limited to an average of 120 MME per day for treatment of chronic pain.
2. Initial concurrent prescriptions for opioids and benzodiazepines shall be limited to no more than seven (7) consecutive days unless determined to be medically necessary.
3. Initial prescriptions for opioids shall be limited to no more than seven (7) consecutive days for adults and three (3) consecutive days for children unless determined to be medically necessary.

**Effective 11/15/2019, the following edits will also be applied:**
1. Extended-release opioid formulations and fentanyl will be limited to opioid-experienced members

**Effective 1/1/2020:**
1. The MME Safety Edits will be lowered to an average of 90 MME per day

*The above requirements do not apply to members who are:*
1. Receiving hospice or palliative care;
2. Receiving treatment for cancer; and
3. Residents of long-term care facilities.

Please consider options to safely reduce the member’s opioid needs or submit a prior authorization if the member meets one of the above criteria. You may submit a prior authorization to AlohaCare by accessing the Forms section of our website at: [http://www.alohacare.org/Providers/Forms](http://www.alohacare.org/Providers/Forms).

Below are some resources to assist you with initiating and tapering opioid therapy.


If you have any questions, please contact the AlohaCare Pharmacy Department at (808) 973-7418.

Mahalo,

AlohaCare Pharmacy Department