Care Medicare Plan (HMO D-SNP) Members

Prescription Opioids: What you need to know.

Prescription opioids can be used to help relieve short-term moderate-to-severe pain and are often prescribed following a surgery or injury, or for certain health conditions.

These medications can be an important part of treatment but also come with serious risks like addiction and overdose, especially with prolonged use.

At iCare Medicare Plan, we know that managing pain treatment can be a challenge. You need to find pain relief that works, but you also want to keep yourself safe.

We want to make that easy, by checking in with you on your current treatments and offering new options that may work for you.

What are some options or treatments for pain management?
Some of these options may work better than opioids and have fewer risks and side effects. Options may include:
» Exercising using your SilverSneakers® benefit. Start at a slower pace than you think you can do and increase over time.
» Physical or occupational therapy, or pain relief devices ordered by your doctor and authorized by iCare. Motion is lotion for your joints and mood lifting.
» Acupuncture for chronic low back pain*
» Behavioral therapy or counseling. Learn relaxation and stress reduction techniques. Practice daily.
» Using your Over-the-Counter (OTC) benefit of $100 a month/$300 a quarter to purchase OTC medications like naproxen, ibuprofen, acetaminophen or OTC topical pain creams.**

Always talk with your health care provider before you start new ways to manage your pain that does not involve prescription opioids. To discuss more pain relief options that are covered under iCare Medicare Plan, call your Care Coordinator or speak to Customer Service.

If my pain medications are working for me, what should I do?
» Stay in touch and work with your provider on your pain management strategy to make sure you are getting the safest most effective care.
» Look out for potential side effects, like nausea, constipation, tiredness or confusion.
» Keep safe by knowing about the long-term side effects of using opioids, including an increased risk of heart disease, dependence and overdose.
» Use the programs on drug safety and managing medications available to you through iCare Medicare Plan. Learn more by reading your Evidence of Coverage or EOC, Chapter 5, Section 10.

If you are concerned about pain medication misuse, we can help. Details are on back!
If you’re concerned about pain medication misuse, iCare can help.

Members of iCare Medicare Plan with opioid use disorder (OUD) can receive coverage of services to treat OUD through an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)*.

You’re also covered for outpatient programs that offer substance misuse recovery and mental health support. Talk to your Care Coordinator or your health care provider about your concerns.

Find local treatment centers by using the iCare Provider Search tool or iCare Medicare Plan Provider Directory on our web site: www.iCareHealthPlan.org. You can request a copy of our Provider Directory by calling us at 1-800-777-4376, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Know that we’re working alongside you to ensure your pain management is truly effective at treating your pain and supporting the life you want to live.

*Prior authorization may be required and there are limitations and exclusions. Please refer to the plan’s Evidence of Coverage or EOC, Chapter 4 Benefits Chart for more information, call your Care Coordinator or Customer Service for more information.

**Please consult your doctor or pharmacist prior to use to assure these OTCs are safe with your current medications.