



## Medi-Cal Pharmacy Benefit *Med-Cal Rx* Overview

Effective January 1, 2022 all pharmacy benefits for Medi-Cal beneficiaries including those in a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan will be covered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) stated-wide pharmacy benefit called Medi-Cal Rx. Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans will no longer be responsible to cover pharmacy benefits including Grievance and Appeals.

DHCS has contracted with Magellan Medicaid Administration to provide administrative services and supports relative to the Medi-Cal pharmacy benefit.

Transitioning Pharmacy Benefits from the managed care delivery system to a state-wide FFS delivery system will, among other things:

- Standardized the Medi-Cal pharmacy benefit throughout the State
- Improve access to pharmacy services with a pharmacy network that includes approximately 94 percent of the state's licensed outpatient pharmacies
- Apply statewide utilization management protocols to all outpatient drugs
- Strengthen California's ability to negotiate state supplemental drug rebates with drug manufacturers, thereby creating additional cost savings

The change to a state-wide pharmacy benefit does not apply to the following:

- Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) plans
- Senior Care Action Network (SCAN)
- Cal MediConnect health plans
- Major Risk Medical Insurance Program (MRMIP)

Effective January 1, 2022 Medi-Cal Rx will be responsible for managing and resolution of complaints and grievances raised by Managed Care Plan members, their Authorized Representatives, or other interested parties, regarding a Medi-Cal Rx complaint or grievance.

Effective January 1, 2022 Medi-Cal Rx will be responsible for managing member appeals involving disagreement with benefit-related decisions, such as coverage disputes, disagreeing with and seeking reversal of a request involving medical necessity etc...

### Resources:

DHCS Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service (800) 977-2273

Consumer Center for Health Education & Advocacy (877) 734-3258

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan Customer Service Health Plan ID Card

San Diego County Access & Crisis Line (888) 724-7240