


PLAN OPERATIONS	 From DentaQuest			
	<i>Policy and Procedure</i>			
	Policy Name:	Pain Medication Policy	Policy ID:	PLANCG-40
	Approved By:	Peer Review and Credentialing Committee	Last Revision Date:	01/20/2026
	States:	Oregon	Last Review Date:	04/01/2026
	Application:	Medicaid	Effective Date:	04/02/2026

PURPOSE

To establish a guide for the Dental Subcontractor providers to use in managing an enrollee’s pain medication.

POLICY

1. It is the intent of the Dental Subcontractor to be conservative and compassionate regarding prescription of medication. Each prescription is not to exceed more than is needed for the immediate dental condition.
2. It is the responsibility of Primary Care Dentist (PCD) to manage the pain medication needs of the enrollee unless they are under the care of a specialist.
3. The Dental Subcontractor’s Member Services Department cannot phone in prescriptions for the PCD.
4. Dentists are required to continually review and follow federal regulations, state licensing board requirements and state guidelines for safe prescribing.
 - A. Ask if patients are getting medications from other doctors and use the Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) prior to prescribing opioids whenever possible. Providers shall maintain documentation of the prescription drug history of the individual being treated. In the case that an enrolled provider is not able to conduct the PDMP check, the providers shall maintain documentation of efforts, including reasons why the provider was unable to conduct the check.
 - B. Do not prescribe opioids to patients in substance abuse treatment programs without consulting the program’s medical staff.
 - C. Do not offer prescriptions with refills and use caution if replacing prescriptions that were lost, destroyed or stolen.
 - D. Initial prescriptions or refills must be paper or electronic prescription signed by the prescribing practitioner except in emergency situations.
 - E. Medication prescribed for emergency pain management should not exceed 72 hours.
 - F. Prescriber must, within 7 days after authorizing an emergency oral prescription, either by mail or personally deliver to the dispensing pharmacist a written prescription. The written prescription must state: “Authorization for Emergency Dispensing” and the date of the oral order.
 - 1) Failing to file a written prescription to the dispensing pharmacist within 7 days, will result in the pharmacist notifying the local DEA office.
5. For enrollees living in residential facilities, or homes providing on going care, medications are provided in a manner consistent with the appropriate medication dispensing system of the facility.

Medically necessary emergency prescriptions are available on a twenty-four (24) hour, seven (7) day a week basis and provide for a three (3) day supply of any medication, deemed appropriate by the enrollee's PCD, or the on-call dentist (other than Class 7 & 11 and those carved out from capitation), to be dispensed if the prescription requires a pre-authorization which cannot be obtained before the date the prescription is to be filled.

6. If on referral to a specialist, once the treatment is completed, the enrollee will be referred back to the PCD for any further prescribed pain medications. The purpose of this is to help manage the behavior of pain medication seeking enrollees.
7. The treating provider will notify the Care Coordination Department, via the Online Care Coordination system or by contacting the Member Services Department, when an enrollee exhibits pain medication seeking behavior.
8. The Care Coordination Department will then place the enrollee on Care Coordination and notify the enrollee in writing.

REFERENCES

42 CFR 438.236
 OAR 410-123-1640 Prescriptions
 OAR 410-121-0030 Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan
 OHA Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Dentists¹
 Oregon Acute Opioid Prescribing Guidelines ²

Revision History

Date:	Description
06/14/2012	Approval and adoption.
06/06/2014	Updates based on annual review.
02/23/2015	Updates based on annual review.
02/23/2016	Updates based on annual review.
02/14/2017	Updates based on annual review.
03/12/2018	Updates based on annual review.
05/20/2019	Updates based on annual review.
12/09/2019	Conversion to revised policy and procedure format and naming convention.
12/29/2020	Updates based on annual review.
10/13/2021	Updates based on annual review.
12/31/2022	Updates based on annual review.
11/13/2023	Updates based on annual review.

¹ <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/SUBSTANCEUSE/OPIOIDS/Documents/oregon-recommended-opioid-guidelines-dentists.pdf>

² <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Documents/Rules/AcuteOpioidPrescribingGuidelines.10.2018.pdf>

04/25/2024	Updates based on annual review.
01/11/2025	Annual review.
01/20/2026	Updates based on annual review.