



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation

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memo

To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Matthew Zurek, Deputy Commissioner, Health Care Management and System Monitoring

Date: January 5, 2016

Update: Change of "N" Status Drugs to Appendix A, ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary from the

RE: Official Disability Guidelines – Treatment in Workers' Comp (ODG)

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) notified system participants that the Work Loss Data Institute (WLDI), publisher of the *Official Disability Guidelines* (ODG), will make changes affecting two drugs listed in Appendix A, *ODG Workers' Compensation Drug Formulary*. Effective February 1, 2016, as previously noted, Fentanyl Transdermal Patches and MS-Contin will change status from "Y" to "N." In addition and also effective February 1, 2016, Levorphanol (Levo-Dromoran) and Morphine ER/Naltrexone (Embeda) will change from "Y" to "N."

The purpose of notifying system participants is to allow time to review and prepare for transition of these drugs to the "N" status drug list. TDI-DWC continues to encourage system participants to discuss and coordinate the ongoing course of treatment if these drugs are currently being prescribed. Prescriptions for these drugs will require preauthorization approval starting February 1, 2016.

In preparation for the transition of these drugs to the "N" drug status list of ODG's Appendix A, TDI-DWC will continue with its outreach efforts to inform and work with injured employees, prescribing doctors, pharmacies, and insurance carriers.

If there are any questions regarding the information in this memorandum, contact Comp Connection for Health Care Providers at (800) 372-7713, option 3, or by email at medben@tdi.texas.gov.