



**To: AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast Providers and Facilities**

**Date: May 22, 2019**

**Subject: Opioid Prescription Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME)**

Effective **July 01, 2019**, AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast will be lowering the maximum morphine milligram equivalent (MME) from 90MME per day to 50MME per day.

**This updated MME limit will apply along with other opioid limits that are already in place.**

Prior authorization will be required for:

- All extended-release and long acting (ER/LA) opioids.
- Any opioid regimen greater than or equal to **50MME per day** (calculated across all products if members are receiving more than one opioid concurrently).
- Greater than a three-day supply of opioids for members under 21 years of age.
- Greater than a five-day supply of opioids for members 21 years of age or older.

Members that are currently undergoing treatment for cancer, in hospice, receiving palliative care or identified as having sickle cell disease will be exempt from these requirements. Claims for these members that do not auto-approve can receive a one year approval by calling the numbers shown below.

**Prior authorization forms for opioid containing products, as well as opioid treatment resources may be on found on the plans websites:**

[www.amerhealthcaritasp.com](http://www.amerhealthcaritasp.com) → Providers → Resource → Pharmacy Services

[www.amerhealthcaritasnortheast.com](http://www.amerhealthcaritasnortheast.com) → Providers → Resource → Pharmacy Services

**If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Pharmacy Services**

Plan Name	Opioid Phone Number	Opioid Fax Number
AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania	<b>1-800-578-0898</b>	<b>1-877-708-9080</b>
AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast	<b>1-888-208-1020</b>	<b>1-877-693-8482</b>

Ethics and Compliance Hotline (for reporting fraud, waste, and abuse): 1-866-833-9718, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Secure and confidential. You may remain anonymous. Mandatory provider training available on-line at: [www.amerhealthcaritasp.com](http://www.amerhealthcaritasp.com) or [www.amerhealthcaritasnortheast.com](http://www.amerhealthcaritasnortheast.com) → Providers → Resources → Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.