

## PROVIDER BULLETIN

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January 14, 2022

### **“Safe At Home” Patient Safety Opioid Initiative**

**Applies to: Pharmacy Providers**

**Effective Date: January 15, 2022**

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#### **“Safe at Home” Medication Disposal Packets**

MO HealthNet and the Missouri Board of Pharmacy continue to respond to the opioid crisis afflicting Missourians. MO HealthNet is pleased to announce the “Safe at Home” medication disposal initiative, in partnership with the Missouri Board of Pharmacy’s [Rx Cares for Missouri Program](#) and the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS).

Effective January 15, 2022, MO HealthNet will reimburse pharmacy providers who dispense at-home medication disposal packets to eligible MO HealthNet participants who are at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose. MO HealthNet has selected DisposeRx<sup>®</sup> packets as the preferred medication disposal packet. DisposeRx<sup>®</sup> is an at-home oral medication disposal packet composed of FDA-approved materials and provides a simple, convenient and effective solution for the disposal of unused or expired medication. These convenient at-home medication disposal packets will allow MO HealthNet participants to safely and easily dispose of unused opioids, preventing accidental overdoses.

DHSS has issued a [statewide standing order](#) authorizing Missouri licensed pharmacists practicing in the state of Missouri to order and dispense DisposeRx<sup>®</sup> packets to eligible MO HealthNet participants at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose.

Pharmacists may bill MO HealthNet for DisposeRx<sup>®</sup> packets:

- Pursuant to DHSS’ statewide standing order for DisposeRx packets (See DHSS standing order available at: <https://health.mo.gov/safety/bnnd/pdf/so-drug-deactivation-and-disposal-products.pdf>), or
- Pursuant to a prescription from an enrolled MO HealthNet provider with prescriptive authority.

Pharmacy providers can bill MO HealthNet for the cost of the DisposeRx® packet, up to \$1.20 per packet, plus the current professional dispensing fee at the time the product is dispensed, currently \$12.70. Pharmacies must submit a Usual and Customary cost that equals or exceeds the allowed amount to receive the full reimbursement allowed. A pharmacist must counsel participants on overdose risk factors and safe medication disposal whenever a DisposeRx® packet is dispensed.

All MO HealthNet pharmacy providers are eligible to submit MO HealthNet claims for DisposeRx® packets under the "Safe At Home" initiative. Visit MO HealthNet's [website](#) for additional information on enrolling as a MO HealthNet provider.

"Improving patient health and safety are the Board of Pharmacy's top priorities," said Board President James L. Gray, II, Pharm D., MBA. The Board looks forward to partnering with MO HealthNet on this important patient safety initiative.

**Provider Bulletins** are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>). Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

**MO HealthNet News:** Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline  
573-751-2896**