Pricing and Billing for Methadone and Buprenorphine





Hub Dispensed Medication Costs

Buprenorphine – Medication cost is in addition to hub case rate Est. Cost 28 days – 16 mg dose: Suboxone Film: \$406

Buprenorphine mono: \$241.36

Hub Client Assessed to determine most appropriate treatment

Medicaid Medication Cost

DESCRIPTION	PRICE/UNIT
SUBOXONE 2 MG-0.5 MG SL FILM	\$4.04
SUBOXONE 4 MG-1 MG SL FILM	\$7.25
SUBOXONE 8 MG-2 MG SL FILM	\$7.25
SUBOXONE 12 MG-3 MG SL FILM	\$14.49
BUPRENORPHINE HCL 2 MG*	\$3.47
BUPRENORPHINE HCL 8 MG*	\$4.31

*Generally used for pregnant women only

Methadone – Medicaid cost is included in the hub case rate

Est. Cost 28 days – 80 mg dose: Methadone: \$10.50

DESCRIPTION	PRICE/UNIT
METHADONE 80 MG	\$0.38



Spoke Client Medication Costs

Buprenorphine – Dispensed through pharmacies

Methadone – Not available due to Federal law Est. Retail Cost per 28 days – 16 mg dose

SUBOXONE FILM: \$480-\$560

GENERIC SUBOXONE TABLET: \$490-\$540

BUPRENORPHINE MONO*: \$260-\$290

*Generally used for pregnant women only

Spoke physicians prescribe



Hub and Spoke- Suboxone/Buprenorphine Billing Issues

- Buprenorphine mono product requires a prior authorization irrespective of dose
- Buprenorphine tablet product requires prior authorization irrespective of dose



Suboxone/Buprenorphine Hub Billing Issues

- Hub billing requires use of HCFA 1500 form which is not a routine billing mechanism for medication
- Dosage control All Medicaid claims must be manually reviewed by HP to verify that a prior authorization is on file for any client with an average dose of 16 mg/day or higher



Spoke - Suboxone/Buprenorphine Billing Issues

- Prior authorization must be received prior to completing the induction process where the final dose is determined
- Anything up to 16mg/day is automatically approved; over 16 mg/day won't be dispensed by a pharmacy without involvement of the DVHA care team
- Spoke clients are locked into a single pharmacy a change of which, even for legitimate purposes, requires DVHA care team involvement if a client is receiving treatment somewhere other than his/her home area (for instance, if a client is receiving residential treatment)