This Computes!

Department of Health Care Services
Children's Medical Services Network
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #102

Brand Name Drugs-Revised

Infrequently a physician will specifically prescribe a brand name drug for a child, because for the particular child the brand name drug is more effective, has fewer side-effects, or is considered safer than its generic counterpart. Brand name drugs with generic equivalents (similar to drugs on the restricted list) require separate SARs.

The procedure for issuing a SAR for a brand name drug requires the user to manually enter the NDC code referenced by the provider. The NDC code will not be displayed in CMSNET. The only drugs listed in CMSNET are the restricted drugs. The user must have SAR override in order to manually enter the NDC code as follows:

1. Enter the required information on the "Enter SAR" screen.
2. Select "Add Services."
3. Enter the NDC code under the "Drugs Requiring Specific Authorization" section on the "Search – Service Code" screen and select "Search"
4. The message "No Matching Records Found" will be displayed on the "Search – Select Services" screen with a section to add the manual NDC code. Enter the 11-digit code in the section labeled "Type" and click on "Continue".
5. A pop-up message will appear with instructions to check "Yes" or "No".
6. For a brand name over-ride, check Yes.
   Note: Brand Name over-rides should only be used if the generic alternative is not effective and the brand name drug is medically necessary.
7. If this is to manually enter a NDC because it is not yet in CMSNET, check No.

It is important to distinguish if the manually entered NDC is for a brand name over-ride of a drug or if it is only to authorize a NDC that does not yet appear in CMSNET. **For blood factor products, always check "No".**

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The NDC code will be added to the SAR form without a description. The description should be entered in the "Special Instructions" field.

Please review This Computes #275 before manual entry of any NDC code.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Edan Lum, Pharm D., CMS Branch Pharmaceutical Consultant,
916-327-1902 or 510-286-0722, edan.lum@dhcs.ca.gov