



State of Vermont
Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA)
NOB 1 South, 280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1010

Agency of Human Services
[Phone] 802-879-5900
[Fax] 802-241-0268

January 2, 2020

****Attention Pharmacies****
Important Changes to Refill Tolerance for Controlled Substances

To minimize the risk of misuse, abuse and diversion of controlled substances, Vermont Medicaid periodically reviews the prospective safety edits in place in the Pharmacy Point-of-Sale System. To support ongoing efforts to lower the risk to Medicaid members, DVHA is implementing a more restrictive refill tolerance edit.

Currently the refill too soon calculation is based only on the most recent fill date. Over time, however, a succession of early refills could allow the member to accumulate additional units (tabs, caps, milliliters, etc.), leading to members having significantly more medication on hand than medically needed. This new edit will begin to cumulatively count early refills beginning on **01/09/2020**, and a maximum accumulation of seven (7) extra days of medication will be allowed at any given time.

This change is an important step in reducing the availability of unused or unnecessary medication and preventing medication misuse. For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362. Vermont providers can also send inquiries via email to **PBA_VTHelpdesk@changehealthcare.com**. Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's pharmacy benefits programs.

Nancy J. Hogue, Pharm.D.
Director of Pharmacy Services