

Letter 61

From: [Pam Olson](#)
To: [ETF SMB GIB Feedback](#)
Subject: Medications
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 3:31:56 PM

I have a question about a formulary benefit and Navitus has referred me to the State of Wisconsin which determines if a medication can be filled on a 30 or 90 day basis at a retail pharmacy.

I am on two medications long term and they have been prescribed by my physician for a 90 day prescription but the etf only allows these medications, [REDACTED], to be filled for 30 days through a retail pharmacy. I switched to these meds from [REDACTED] which was more expensive, but I was allowed to get that on a 90 day basis from the pharmacy of my choice. Since these medications are essentially identical I would like an explanation for this difference and I would like the board that makes this determination to reconsider and change the availability of the [REDACTED] to 90 days through a retail pharmacy. I want to use the retail pharmacy and since these are cheaper than my previous script, I cannot see what the rationale is for limiting these meds to a 90 day supply only from a mail order pharmacy.

I am a physician and am well versed in these medications and I know there is no significant safety differential between these medications. Nor do I see the benefit to handicapping our local pharmacies (Local pharmacies are closing because of these ridiculous restrictions.) by not allowing them to provide services in favor of mail order pharmacies. I wonder how many other meds are restricted in this matter and how many of those restrictions are based on outdated and inaccurate information. It is quite an unnecessary burden for me to go to a pharmacy every 30 days, I am not retired and not like many of my patients who quietly explain that they have nothing better to do any way. I also like having a personal pharmacist as part of my health care team that knows everything I take and through their ongoing relationship with me, they are able to contribute so much to my safety and health.

There are more reasons to support our local pharmacies than I have time to elucidate today.

Thank you,
Pam Olson