Summary Report

Prior Authorization Policies for Pediatric ADHD Medication Prescriptions – Selected Managed Care Plans

APRIL 2023

In response to the increased number of U.S. children taking attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medications, some state Medicaid managed care plans have implemented policies to manage access to ADHD medications. These policies, typically called prescription prior authorization policies, prevent children younger than age 18 from receiving coverage for ADHD medications without the children meeting additional criteria that are furnished by the prescriber and set forth in the policies. This map examines features of prior authorization policies in the Medicaid managed care plans of five states (GA, IL, NV, NJ, and SC) selected to be a sample of ADHD medication prior authorization in managed care for this project. This dataset was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award given to ChangeLab Solutions. More maps and tables are available at www.lawatlas.org.



Purple indicates that multiple Medicaid managed care plans meet this criterion

Yellow indicates that only one Medicaid managed care plan meets this criterion

ADHD Prior Authorization Age Restrictions Apply to Preferred Medications

Four states have a prior authorization policy in their Medicaid managed care plans that prevents children of certain ages from receiving coverage for preferred ADHD medication prescriptions without additional prescriber involvement.

Jurisdictions: 4 (GA, IL, NJ, NV)

Note: SC has a policy that applies to non-preferred medications.

Table 1: State Medicaid Managed Care Plans Indicated Above

State	Medicaid Managed Care Plan
Georgia	Peach State
Illinois	Aetna Better Health of Illinois Blue Cross Community Health Plan CountyCare Health Plan Molina Healthcare
New Jersey	Aetna Better Health of New Jersey Horizon NJ Health UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
Nevada	Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nevada Molina Healthcare of Nevada