IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING California – Prorated Copay Requirement of CII Controlled Substances
Effective Date: January 1, 2019

Effective January 1, 2019, under new California laws passed by AB 1048, certain plans in California are required to prorate an insured’s or enrollee’s cost sharing for a partial fill of a prescription of an oral, solid dosage form prescription drug of schedule II controlled substances when requested and the employer group is situs in California.

As of July 1, 2018, only California pharmacists may dispense a partial fill of a CII drug if requested by the member or prescriber when the member’s employer is situs in California. The new rules specify that a California pharmacist may charge a professional dispense fee to cover the actual supply and labor costs associated with each partial from the original prescription. (California code, Business and Professions Code BPC Section 4052.10)

In order for pharmacies to fulfill a partial fill of Schedule II prescriptions, the steps below must be followed:

1. Retain original prescription with a notation of how much of the prescription has been filled, until the prescription has been fully dispensed. The total quantity dispensed shall not exceed the total quantity prescribed.
2. Subsequent fills, until the original prescription is completely dispensed, must occur at the pharmacy where the original prescription was partially filled. The full prescription shall be dispensed not more than 30 days after the date on which the prescription was written. Thirty-one days after the date on which the prescription was written, the prescription shall expire and no more of the drug shall be dispensed without a subsequent prescription.
3. The pharmacist shall record in the state prescription drug monitoring program only the actual amounts of the drug dispensed.
4. The pharmacist shall record the date and amount of each partial fill in a readily retrievable form and on the original prescription, and shall include the initials of the pharmacist who dispensed each partial fill.
5. A pharmacist may charge a professional dispensing fee to cover the actual supply and labor costs associated with dispensing each partial fill associated with the original prescription.

OptumRx Partial Fill Claim Adjudication
OptumRx has initiated new functionality that will allow proration of partial fills for plans in California, if the submission clarification code (SCC) equal to 47 is submitted.

Please note that clarification codes are subject to change in the future.

If you have any questions, please call the pharmacy help desk phone number on the back of the member’s prescription insurance card.