## DEA License and Scope of Practice Check Enhancements

**Effective Date: April 1, 2019**

**OptumRx Plan Changes to the DEA Prescriber License and Scope of Practice Check**

Effective April 1, 2019, OptumRx will enable an enhanced prescriber DEA license and scope of practice check at point-of-sale for all Schedule II-V controlled substance claims to prevent payment of claims from unauthorized prescribers. This applies to all OptumRx Medicare Part D MAPD, PDP, EGWP, MMP and PACE Plans.

The prescriber DEA license check enhancement will validate submission of:

1. A valid, active, non-expired DEA prescriber license.
2. The scope of practice check will match the prescriber’s DEA schedule class designation(s) to the schedule class of the controlled drug on the claim.

Successful validation of these two steps will allow the claim to proceed to adjudication. However, failure of the check will result in a hard reject at the point-of-sale.

### Overriding Hard Rejects from Failed DEA Check

If the pharmacy encounters any of these hard rejects on a prescription claim, the pharmacy must do the following to continue processing the claim for a paid response.

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| Claim submitted with a NPI where the associated DEA is inactive or expired. | Reject Code 43: Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to the submitted Prescriber ID is inactive. Message: “Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to submitted Prescriber ID is inactive. Prescriber is not authorized for drug’s DEA class.” | Validate if prescriber has a valid, active, non-expired DEA number and document on the prescription.  
Verify the controlled drug class schedule and narcotic/narcotic designation for the drug being dispensed is within the prescriber’s scope of practice based on their DEA schedule class designation.  
Resubmit the claim with SCC 43 - Prescriber’s DEA is active with DEA Authorized Prescriptive Right. |
| Claim submitted with a NPI where the prescriber does not have a DEA found. | Reject Code 44: Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to the submitted Prescriber ID is not found. Message: “Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to submitted Prescriber ID is not found. Prescriber is not authorized for drug’s DEA class.” | Validate if prescriber has a valid, active, non-expired DEA number and document on the prescription.  
Verify the controlled drug class schedule and narcotic/narcotic designation for the drug being dispensed is within the prescriber’s scope of practice based on their DEA schedule class designation.  
Resubmit the claim with SCC 43 - Prescriber’s DEA is active with DEA Authorized Prescriptive Right.  
**OR**  
Resubmit the claim with SCC 45 – Prescriber’s DEA is a valid Hospital DEA with Suffix and has prescriptive authority for this drug DEA schedule. |
Claim submitted with a NPI where the associated DEA does not have authority for the controlled drug product schedule class on the claim.

| Reject Code 46: Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to the submitted Prescriber ID does not allow this drug DEA class. Message: “Plan’s Prescriber database indicates the associated DEA to submitted Prescriber ID does not allow this drug DEA class. Prescriber is not authorized for drug’s DEA class.” |
| Validate if prescriber has a valid, active, non-expired DEA number and document on the prescription. Verify the controlled drug class schedule and narcotic / non-narcotic designation for the drug being dispensed is within the prescriber’s scope of practice based on their DEA schedule class designation. Resubmit the claim with SCC 46 - Prescriber’s DEA has prescriptive authority for this drug DEA schedule. |

Resubmission of the claim with the Submission Clarification Code (SCC) should allow the claim to pay if no other conflicting edits are found.

In situations where SCC submission still results in a rejected claim due to an invalid DEA number submitted, the Pharmacy Help Desk must be contacted for assistance at (800) 797-9791, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The help desk can also assist in initiating a request for OptumRx to research the prescriber’s DEA license in question and perform a data validation and update in the OptumRx database. This process should be followed for those Prescribers who would like their individual DEA license verified and updated in our records. Please allow for a 24 - 48 hour turn-around time for these requests for Prescriber information to be updated.

To view payer sheets, visit: https://professionals.optumrx.com/resources/payer-sheets.html. To reduce processing errors, please confirm the information on member’s ID card prior to submitting prescription claims.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the OptumRx Pharmacy Help Desk at (800) 797-9791 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).