

Subject MA prior authorization carve out for treatment of opioid use disorder

Authors Mahamoud and Bierman

Analyst Annie Mach

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Summary

Under current law, some drugs available under Medical Assistance (MA) and MinnesotaCare require prior authorization or pre-approval before the drug is covered. A Drug Formulary Committee is required to make recommendations to the commissioner of human services about which drugs require prior authorization (§ 256B.0625, subdivision 13c); however, for some drugs, state statute directly limits or prohibits the use of prior authorization.

Under current law, at least one version of liquid methadone, which is a drug used for the treatment of opioid use disorder, must be available under MA and MinnesotaCare without prior authorization. This bill deletes that requirement and instead prohibits prior authorization and step therapy for any class of drugs approved for the treatment of opioid use disorder (including liquid methadone).