June 13, 2023

Utilizing Appropriate Dispense As Written (DAW) Codes

Dear Valued Provider,

Prime Therapeutics has identified an increase in the inappropriate use of Dispense As Written (DAW) Code 4 in submitted claims for Revlimid®. There is currently a shortage of generic alternatives for Revlimid® due to a staged release into the marketplace. When the Brand drug is being dispensed due to a shortage, such as in this instance, the claim should be submitted with DAW code 8.

DAW codes are utilized to indicate product selection and have accepted standards of use per NCPDP. Prime Therapeutics does require the Participating Pharmacy to substitute generic products when possible. All dispensed claims should have the appropriate DAW Code in relation to the situation with appropriate documentation. The table below outlines appropriate use of DAW Codes per NCPDP standards.

VALUES FOR ALL STANDARD FORMATS	
VALUE	**DESCRIPTION**
0	No Product Selection Indicated *This is the field default value that is appropriately used for prescriptions for single source brand, single biologic, co-branded/co-licensed, generic or interchangeable biosimilar products. DAW 0 is not appropriate for a multi-source branded product with available generic(s) or for a reference product with interchangeable biosimilar(s).*
1	Substitution Not Allowed by Prescriber *This value is used when the prescriber indicates, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that the product is Medically Necessary to be Dispensed As Written. DAW 1 is based on prescriber instruction and not product classification.*
2	Substitution Allowed - Patient Requested Product Dispensed *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, and the patient requests the brand or reference product.*
3	Substitution Allowed - Pharmacist Selected Product Dispensed *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, and the pharmacist determines the brand or reference product should be dispensed.*

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VALUE	DESCRIPTION
4	Substitution Allowed - Generic Drug or Interchangeable Biosimilar Not in Stock *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, and the brand or reference product is dispensed since a currently marketed generic or interchangeable biosimilar is not stocked in the pharmacy.*
5	Substitution Allowed - Brand Drug or Reference Product Dispensed as a Generic or interchangeable biosimilar *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, and the pharmacist is utilizing the brand or reference product as the generic or interchangeable biosimilar entity.*
6	Override *This value is only used when other existing values do not meet the business need.*
7	Substitution Not Allowed - Brand Drug or Reference Product Mandated by Law *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted but prevailing law or regulation prohibits the substitution of a brand or reference product even though generic or interchangeable biosimilar versions of the product may be available in the marketplace.*
8	Substitution Allowed - Generic Drug or Interchangeable Biosimilar Not Available in Marketplace *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, and the brand or reference product is dispensed since the generic or interchangeable biosimilar is not currently manufactured, distributed, or is temporarily unavailable.*
9	Substitution Allowed by Prescriber but Plan Requests Brand or Reference Product *This value is used when the prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by prevailing law, that generic or interchangeable biosimilar substitution is permitted, but the plan's formulary requests the brand or reference product. This situation can occur when the prescriber writes the prescription using either the brand, reference product, generic or interchangeable biosimilar name and the product is available from multiple sources.*

If you have questions regarding claims processing, please call Prime's Contact Center at 800.821.4795.

Sincerely,

Pharmacy Network Management
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