Overview of Pennsylvania Drug Formulary Proposed Rules

On October 20, 2017, Pennsylvania Senate Bill 936 was proposed regarding a Prescription Drug Formulary and Utilization Review Organizations. Amendments to the Workers’ Compensation Act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338) will take effect December 20, 2017, with the Department of Labor soliciting public comments regarding the selection of a prescription drug formulary thirty days later on January 20, 2018.

The information provided below is an overview of the proposed rules which are subject to change based on further input to the rules by the state of Pennsylvania.

- Amends the Workers’ Compensation Act to require the Department of Labor to adopt an evidence-based prescription drug formulary and require that Utilization Review Organizations (UROs) and Peer Review Organizations (PROs) are accredited by a nationally recognized organization selected by the Department.
- Within 30 days of the effective date of the Act, the Department must have a 90 day public comment period. Notice of the public comment period must be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.
- At least one public hearing must be held during the public comment period.
- Within 30 days of the close of the public comment period, the Department will publish notice of its selection of a drug formulary in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.
- The formulary will take effect 180 days after publication.

These rules are not in effect at this time and are subject to change prior to any upcoming implementation date. Once the state adopts the final rules, an update to this bulletin will be provided.

Please contact your Account Manager if you have any questions.