Simplifying Medical Drug Management Complexities

Myriad challenges

An array of administrative issues around specialty drugs managed under the medical benefit often leads to fragmented visibility and missed savings opportunities for plan sponsors.

Growing importance

With the rise in costly gene therapies and market-competitive biosimilars, many health plans remain ill positioned to most effectively manage the upcoming pipeline of medically-billed specialty drugs.

A comprehensive solution

Evernorth's Medical Drug Management suite of integrated, automated tools applies all of the necessary checks and balances to ensure plans are defended against the clinical risks and administrative challenges posed by the increasing utilization of specialty drugs billed through the medical benefit.

How it works

01 A prior authorization request was submitted for the initial therapy of an infused medication to treat Crohn's disease at a dose of **800 mg** for a period of one year.

02 As part of its Medical Drug Management claims pre-payment review, Evernorth evaluated both medical necessity and dose management for the therapy, uncovering that only **400 mg** for three months was approved. The patient was then required to return after three months to demonstrate clinical effectiveness.

03 Thanks to Evernorth's utilization management process and the cohesion of its integrated Medical Drug Management capabilities, the claim was automatically repriced to match the dose.

04 Three months later, a request was submitted for renewal, but documentation didn't demonstrate the sufficient improvement of symptoms needed to approve continued therapy.

05 The patient was referred to the pharmacy benefit to begin a trial of a recently released self-injectable, for which he was approved.

06 Ultimately, the plan was able to realize cost aversion for drug and drug administration costs, resulting in savings of **$61,500** for one patient.[*] That patient was also directed to a more clinically appropriate therapy.

To learn more about Evernorth's Medical Drug Management suite, click here.

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