

WAC 296-20-03014 Which drugs have specific limitations? (1) **Injectables.** Prescriptions for injectable opioids or other analgesics, sedatives, antihistamines, tranquilizers, psychotropics, vitamins, minerals, food supplements, and hormones are not covered.

Exceptions: The department or self-insurer covers injectable medications under the following circumstances.

(a) Indicated injectable drugs for the following:

- Inpatients; or
- During emergency treatment of a life-threatening condition/injury; or
- During outpatient treatment of severe soft tissue injuries, burns or fractures when needed for dressing or cast changes; or
- During the perioperative period and the postoperative period, not to exceed forty-eight hours from the time of discharge.

(b) Prescriptions of injectable insulin, heparin, anti-migraine medications, or impotency treatment, when proper and necessary.

(2) **Noninjectable scheduled drugs administered by other than the oral route.** Nonoral routes of administration of scheduled drugs that result in systemic availability of the drug equivalent to injectable routes will also not be covered.

(3) **Sedative-hypnotics.** During the chronic stage of an industrial injury or occupational disease, payment for scheduled sedatives and hypnotics will not be authorized.

(4) **Benzodiazepines.** Payment for prescriptions for benzodiazepines are limited to the following types of patients:

- Hospitalized patients;
- Claimants with an accepted psychiatric disorder for which benzodiazepines are indicated;
- Claimants with an unrelated psychiatric disorder that is retarding recovery but which the department or self-insurer has temporarily authorized treatment (see WAC 296-20-055) and for which benzodiazepines are indicated; and
- Other outpatients for not more than thirty days for the life of the claim.

(5) **Cancer.** When cancer or any other end-stage disease is an accepted condition, the department or self-insurer may authorize payment for any indicated scheduled drug and by any indicated route of administration.

(6) **Spinal cord injuries.** When a spinal cord injury is an accepted condition, the department or self-insurer may authorize payment for anti-spasticity medications by any indicated route of administration (e.g., some benzodiazepines, Baclofen). Prior authorization is required.

Note: See the department formulary for specific limitations and prior authorization requirements of other drugs.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020 and 51.04.030. WSR 00-01-040, § 296-20-03014, filed 12/7/99, effective 1/20/00.]