

T1 P2 155

Steve Nobles
National Employees Health Plan
700 Tower Dr Ste 300
Troy, MI 48098-2835

► **THIS IS A COPY OF A LETTER
WE'LL SEND TO YOUR
AFFECTED EMPLOYEES.**

If you have questions, call your sales representative or contracted agent.

You'll need a new prior authorization for your opioid medication, starting December 1.

Dear Member,

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network remain committed to battling our country's opioid crisis through various programs and initiatives. You or someone on your prescription drug plan has a prior authorization for an opioid prescription with a dosage exceeding 90 morphine milligram equivalents per day. **Starting December 1, 2022, your provider will need to submit a new prior authorization to extend this prescription.**

Providers use morphine milligram equivalents, or MMEs, to measure and compare different drugs using morphine as the standard. Blue Cross requires a prior authorization for opioid dosages that exceed 90 MMEs per day.

Prescription opioids are powerful pain-reducing medications. Examples include prescription medications containing oxycodone, hydrocodone or codeine and may go by the brand names of Vicodin®, Norco® and Tylenol® No. 3, among others. We'll also let your provider know that you need a new prior authorization for your medication. **Talk to your provider about getting a new prior authorization for your medication before November 30, 2022.**

If you have questions, call the number on the back of your member ID card.

Sincerely,

Fish Shaver

Trish Stievater, Pharm.D.
Director, Pharmacy Benefit Clinical Services

Learn more about your pharmacy benefits at bcbsm.com/pharmacy or by logging in to your secure member account at bcbsm.com or on our mobile app. Then click Prescription on the My Coverage tab.