

## Sublocade<sup>™</sup> Prior Auth July 1, 2018

March 2018

### Sublocade

(buprenorphine extended-release injection)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently approved Sublocade as a treatment for moderate-to-severe opioid use disorder (OUD) in adult patients who have initiated treatment with a transmucosal buprenorphine-containing product.

### Notification/Prior Authorization Requirements for Sublocade

UnitedHealthcare has announced coverage review requirements that soon will apply for this medication and steps you can start taking right away to help avoid claim denials.

**Beginning July 1, 2018**, notification/prior authorization for Sublocade will be required for UnitedHealthcare commercial plan members, including affiliate plans such as UnitedHealthcare of the Mid-Atlantic, UnitedHealthcare Oxford, Neighborhood Health Partnership and UnitedHealthcare of the River Valley.

These requirements will apply whether a member is new to therapy or has already been receiving Sublocade. As with all notification/prior authorization requirements, failure to complete the process prior to administering Sublocade will result in claims denial, and the member can't be billed for the service.

**For dates of service before July 1, 2018**, we encourage you to request pre-service coverage reviews so you can check whether a medication is covered before providing services. Clinical coverage reviews can help to avoid starting a patient on therapy that may later be denied due to lack of medical necessity. If you request a pre-service coverage review, you must wait for our determination before rendering the service.

### More information

Additional information about clinical coverage reviews, referrals and how to submit notification/prior Authorization is available on **UHCprovider.com**, refer to pages 6 and 7 of the March Bulletin.

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