



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany New York
12237

NYS MEDICAID SMOKING CESSATION POLICY

- Smoking cessation therapy consists of prescription and non-prescription agents. Covered agents include nasal sprays, inhalers, Zyban (bupropion), Chantix (varenicline), over-the-counter nicotine patches and gum.
- Two courses of smoking cessation therapy per recipient, per year are allowed. A course of therapy is defined as no more than a 90-day supply (an original order and two refills, even if less than a 30 day supply is dispensed in any fill).
- If a course of smoking cessation therapy is interrupted, it will be considered one complete course of therapy. Any subsequent prescriptions would then be considered the second course of therapy.
- Some smoking cessation therapies may be used together. Professional judgement should be exercised when dispensing multiple smoking cessation products.
- Duplicative use of any one agent is not allowed (i.e., same drug and same dosage form and same strength).
- For all smoking cessation products, the recipient must have an order. A prescription is the terminology for an order of a prescription product. A fiscal order refers to an order, which looks just like a prescription—written on a prescription blank, for an over-the-counter product.
- Prescription nicotine patches will no longer be reimbursed. NYS Medicaid will only reimburse for over-the counter nicotine patches.



RESOURCES



NYS SMOKERS' QUITLINE (866) NY-QUITS (866-697-8487)

American Cancer Society
American Lung Association
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Cancer Institute

1-800-227-2345
1-800-585-4872
1-800-CDC-4636 (1-800-232-4636)
1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)

For more information on the New York State Medicaid Smoking Cessation policy, please call 518-486-3209.

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