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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCPDP Specialty Pharmacy Benefit Coverage Identification White Paper Provides Essential Education on Challenges and Opportunities to Speed Time to Therapy for Patients

3 Ways to Learn More: Download the White Paper, Register for Complimentary Webinar on 12/10 and Join an NCPDP Specialty Pharmacy Task Group

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – December 9, 2020 – [NCPDP](https://ncpdp.org), the problem-solving forum for healthcare and an ANSI-accredited SDO, announced the availability of a white paper identifying one of the early challenges in specialty pharmacy – determining whether a specific medication is covered by the pharmacy or medical benefit. The manual and duplicative steps taken to get a patient access to a specialty medication is confusing and time intensive for all participants, including prescribers and patients, and lengthens the time to therapy for patients requiring specialty medications. The white paper also details existing standards to support specialty as well as gaps in standards and opportunities to continue to automate workflows to improve the patient journey.

Industry Stakeholders can learn more about the benefit coverage identification process by downloading the white paper, attending a complimentary webinar and joining NCPDP's Specialty Pharmacy Task Groups.

- **NCPDP Specialty Pharmacy Benefit Coverage Identification White Paper** - Download the white paper today at: <https://ncpdp.org/NCPDP/media/pdf/WhitePaper/NCPDP-Specialty-Pharmacy-Benefit-Coverage-Identification-White-Paper.pdf>
- **Complimentary NCPDP/HIMSS Town Hall Webinar on December 10th at Noon ET** – NCPDP's Work Group (WG) 18 Co-Chairs, Julie Hessick, R.Ph., Senior Director, Business Development, OneOme; Laura Topor, President, Granada Health, Inc.; and Michele Kidd, PharmD, Senior Manager, Clinical Technology, Accredo Health Group, will give an overview of the current specialty pharmacy process, review takeaways from the Benefit Coverage Identification White Paper, highlight electronic transactions available to improve patient care, and provide guidance on how to become involved in future enhancements. Register for the webinar at: <https://ncpdp.org/Webinars.aspx>.
- **Get Engaged and Help Shape the Future of Specialty Pharmacy** - NCPDP has five task groups dedicated to Specialty Pharmacy: WG 18 Specialty Pharmacy Data Exchange Task Group; WG 18 Specialty Requirements for ePrescribing Task Group; WG 18 Benefit Coverage Identification Task Group; WG 18 Patient Consent Task Group; and WG 18 Facilitating Access to Specialty Products Task Group. Task groups meet via teleconference and are open to both NCPDP members and non-members. Read more and access information on how to join a task group at: <https://standards.ncpdp.org/Task-Groups.aspx>.

NCPDP's Work Group 18 Specialty Pharmacy will meet on February 4th, during NCPDP's Virtual Interim Work Group Meetings, February 3-5, 2021.

For the latest information and resources from NCPDP's Specialty Pharmacy Work Group, visit <https://ncpdp.org/Specialty-Pharmacy>, follow NCPDP on Twitter @NCPDP or join the discussion using #AllIn4Specialty.

About NCPDP

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with more than 1,500 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry. Our diverse membership provides leadership and healthcare business solutions through education and standards, created using the consensus building process. NCPDP has been named in federal legislation, including HIPAA, MMA, and HITECH. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for ePrescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data products include dataQ®, a robust database of information on more than 80,000 pharmacies, resQ™, an industry pharmacy credentialing resource, and HCIda®, an innovative prescriber database that provides continually updated information on more than 2.5 million prescribers. NCPDP's RxReconn® is a legislative tracking product for real-time monitoring of pharmacy-related state and national legislative and regulatory activity. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Data Services, Products, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at <http://www.ncdp.org> or call 480.477.1000.

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