



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DIVISION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE  
HEALTH CARE BUREAU

October 19, 2016

**VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Ed Potanka  
Vice President and Chief Counsel  
Cigna  
900 Cottage Grove Road  
Routing B6LPA  
Harford, CT 06002

**Re: Cigna – Prior Authorization for Medication-Assisted Treatment Medications  
for Opioid Use Disorder**

Dear Mr. Potanka:

This letter will serve to memorialize Cigna’s commitment to voluntarily remove prior authorization for Medication-Assisted Treatment (“MAT”) medications, a proven effective treatment for opioid use disorder, as specified below.

Effective as of October 15, 2016, Cigna will end its use of prior authorization for MAT medications to treat opioid use disorder (including, but not limited to, buprenorphine and buprenorphine/naloxone) when prescribed by a MAT-authorized provider.<sup>1</sup> This change in policy will apply to all Cigna commercial health plans (including self-funded plans) and government-sponsored group health plans in the State of New York and, more broadly, nationwide. Additionally, Cigna will maintain its policy of not requiring prior authorization for other MAT medications, including the following: methadone, naltrexone, disulfiram and acamprosate. For the purposes of clarity, Cigna reserves the right to apply quantity limits to MAT medications consistent with generally accepted practices.

Within ten (10) business days of the date of this letter, Cigna will provide the New York State Office of the Attorney General (“OAG”) with evidence that the coverage policy for MAT medications to treat opioid use disorder has been terminated consistent with the change set out

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<sup>1</sup> A MAT-authorized provider is a physician who has obtained a Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) 2000 waiver and has been issued a special identification number that can then be used to prescribe MAT medications (a special "X" number).

above. Also within ten (10) business days of this letter, Cigna will provide all New York state in-network MAT-authorized providers with notification of the policy change.

Cigna's voluntary elimination of prior authorization for MAT medications addresses the OAG's concerns regarding unnecessary access barriers to MAT medications raised during the OAG investigation. Upon Cigna's implementation of the policy change and notification to providers as outlined herein, the OAG agrees to discontinue its investigation concerning Cigna's coverage of Medication-Assisted Treatment.

Very truly yours,



Brant Campbell  
Assistant Attorney General  
Health Care Bureau



Michael Reisman  
Assistant Attorney General  
Health Care Bureau

Countersigned



Ed Potanka  
Vice President & Chief Counsel  
Cigna

Date: 10-19-16