

MedAssess™

UTILIZATION CONTROL



Identifying and utilizing standards of care to drive total cost containment.

From the point of injury, utilization of medications, services, and equipment are some of the top drivers in total medical costs. In order to counteract these drivers, PMSI created a best-in-class solution, MedAssess™, which tips the scales in our customers' favor by effectively managing utilization. As health informatics experts, PMSI understands the significant challenge to control utilization, and we have the industry expertise and integrated solutions to better manage utilization for the injured worker across the entire claims lifecycle.

The MedAssess Utilization Control program uses PMSI's proprietary, clinically based solutions to assess the appropriateness and duration of products and services for the injury. For each new pharmacy transaction, our Utilization Control program proactively manages access to medications through both a prospective Drug Utilization Review (DUR) and a workers' compensation-specific formulary. For catastrophically injured workers who utilize the Catastrophic Care Support program, medical services and equipment orders are reviewed by a PMSI nurse for appropriateness and cost effectiveness at the point of service. As a claim ages and grows closer to settlement, usage requirements can be managed through our Drug VALUE Review to determine pharmacy allocations appropriately.

Utilization Control Results

With the MedAssess Utilization Control program, a prescription that fails to meet prospective pharmacy utilization controls is blocked. On average, 14.5% of medications are deemed not compensable to the injury at point of service, preventing them from being dispensed and saving an average of \$107 per prescription.

Proven Solution: MedAssess – Utilization Control

For each stage of the injury lifecycle, the MedAssess Utilization Control program works to manage access to products and services through the following proprietary programs:

Prospective DUR

Our prospective DUR works with standard pharmacy adjudication edits through an automated system at the point of service to help determine compensability. The DUR screens real time to identify:

- Eligibility for services
- Workers' compensation relevancy
- Excessive quantities and incorrect dosages
- Therapy duplications
- Premature refills
- Drug-to-drug interactions
- Drug-spending caps
- Availability of generic equivalent
- Compliance with state workers' compensation laws
- Authorized prescriber

Workers' Compensation Formulary

PMSI created the industry's first workers' compensation-specific drug formulary. Designed to control costs and mitigate risk, the formulary ensures injured workers have access to the right medications based on the type and stage of injury. The PMSI formulary:

- Works above and beyond standard point-of-service DURs
- Assures access to appropriate medications for workers' compensation injuries
- Is customizable to meet the specific needs of the injured worker
- Reduces inappropriate medication utilization, lowering risk and saving costs
- Decreases administrative burden—when managed appropriately, claims professionals receive fewer phone calls
- Reviewed and validated by an external Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee

Catastrophic Care Support

For injured workers enrolled in the Catastrophic Care Support program, our nurses review all product and service orders for appropriateness prior to fulfillment. This process provides improved care for the injured worker, as well as cost savings. The Catastrophic Care Support program:

- Provides consultative advice on product selection, as necessary
- Assures product and service is related to injury and plan of care
- Suggests additional or alternative products and services, as applicable
- Offers experienced catastrophic care nurses as an extension of the team

THE FOUNDATION OF MEDASSESS

MedAssess ensures appropriate utilization, effective intervention and care management support across the claims lifecycle. This insightful, innovative program is based on PMSI's experience gained over 34 years as one of the nation's largest providers in the workers' compensation industry and access to in-house, proprietary informatics and reporting drawn from first-hand knowledge backed by years of claims information.

MedAssess is built on a robust foundation of data intelligence and PMSI's in-depth experience as a pharmacy benefit manager, durable medical supplies and equipment partner, and Medicare Set-Aside provider. MedAssess is managed by highly trained clinical pharmacists and nurses with extensive experience in the pharmacological therapy and medical treatment of workers' compensation injuries.

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Proven Solutions for Cost Containment

Founded in 1976, PMSI is a leader in developing solutions to control the growth of medical costs in workers' compensation. As one of the nation's largest and most experienced companies focused solely on workers' compensation, we deliver proven solutions for cost containment across the claims lifecycle. PMSI's solutions for Pharmacy, Medical Services and Equipment, and Settlement Solutions deliver quantifiable results and improve the quality of care for injured workers. We provide our customers with the innovation, focus, expertise, analytics and technology needed to successfully deliver workers' compensation benefits.