

April 1, 2016 Georgia Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule

Section IV: General Reimbursement Requirements

Pharmaceuticals

All prescription drugs must be dispensed using an Orange Book therapeutic equivalent drug(s) (**GENERIC**) when available unless designated in the doctor's own handwriting on the face of the prescription, in accordance with O.C.G.A. §26-4-81, that "Brand Medically Necessary" or "Brand Necessary" is required.

Prescription drugs will be reimbursed at the current average wholesale price (AWP) as published by Medi-Span, plus one dispensing fee per National Drug Code (NDC) per day of \$6.45 for generic medications and \$4.31 for brand name medications. All bills submitted for reimbursement must include the NDC of the product provided unless the product provided is a repackaged unit-of-use product. All pharmaceutical bills submitted for repackaged products must include the NDC of the original manufacturer or distributor's stock package used in the repackaging process. The reimbursement allowed shall be based on the current published manufacturer's AWP (in the Medi-Span Directory) price of the product as of the date of dispensing.

When the authorized treating physician prescribes pharmaceuticals, the prescription will indicate by stamp or other means that it is for a workers' compensation claim.

Over-the-Counter Medications

Dispensed over-the-counter (OTC) drugs that are available without the requirement of a physician's prescription, in the same dosage or strength, are not subject to dispensing fees. Reimbursement shall be at retail price and shall not exceed the average wholesale price (AWP) of the original manufacturer's NDC, as outlined above, plus 50 percent.

Compound Medications

Unless otherwise indicated within the compound medications reimbursement guidelines below, the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Rules and Regulations, Chapter 480-11, Pharmaceutical Compounding, and O.C.G.A. Title 26, Chapter 4, Section 80 shall apply. (See Georgia State Board of Pharmacy Advisory, Compounding Pharmacies and Pharmacists, October 30, 2012 at <https://qbp.georgia.gov/press-releases/2013-06-14/pharmacy-advisory>)

Compound medications shall be billed by the compounding pharmacy.

- Compound medications shall be billed by listing each ingredient, the corresponding NDC, and the quantity. An ingredient for which there is no NDC shall not be reimbursed.
- For compound medications, reimbursement shall only be considered for preparations that contain not less than one (1), nor more than three (3) active ingredient(s), and the active ingredient(s) must be Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved. (FDA approved means the New Drug Application for the active ingredient used has been approved by the FDA and is legal for general use.)

- If the NDC for the compound ingredient is a repackaged drug, the maximum allowable reimbursement for the repackaged drug shall be determined based on the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) of the NDC of the original manufacturer.

The maximum allowable reimbursement for the compound shall be the sum of the AWP for each active ingredient minus 50 percent, plus a single compounding fee of \$20.00.

(April 1, 2016)