

# NYRx Drug Utilization Review Program Overview

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## What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Program helps to ensure that prescriptions for outpatient drugs are appropriate, medically necessary, and not likely to result in adverse medical consequences. This program uses professional medical protocols, computer technology, and claims processing data to inform clinical requirements regarding the prescribing and dispensing of prescriptions.

Drugs in the DUR program are subject to criteria such as age or diagnosis, frequency/quantity/duration, or step therapy to ensure clinically appropriate and cost-effective use.

Federal legislation that requires states to implement DUR programs also requires states to establish DUR boards. The [Drug Utilization Review Board \(DURB\)](#) was created to establish and implement medical standards and criteria for Medicaid's DUR programs. The DURB also reviews and provides recommendations for the [NYRx Preferred Drug Program \(PDP\)](#) including preferred products and clinical criteria. The New York State Medicaid DURB is comprised of healthcare professionals appointed by the Commissioner and includes physicians and pharmacists that actively practice in New York.

Responsibilities of the DURB include:

- The establishment and implementation of medical standards and criteria for the retrospective and prospective DUR program.
- The development, selection, application, and assessment of educational interventions for physicians, pharmacists, and recipients that improve care.
- The collaboration with managed care organizations to address drug utilization concerns and to implement consistent care management strategies across fee-for-service and managed care.
- The review of therapeutic classes is subject to the PDP.

## How Does the DUR Program Differ the PDP Program?

The DUR program applies coverage criteria to select drugs or drug classes covered by NYRx. Whereas the PDP program identifies drugs in select drug classes as preferred or non-preferred. Non-preferred drugs require prior authorization unless otherwise indicated. Drugs or drug classes in the PDP may also be subject to the DUR program.

## Resources

- [NYRx Education & Outreach Website](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug Program](#)

## Contact Information

The NYRx Education & Outreach Call Center is available by phone at 1-833-967-7310 or by email at [NYRxEO@primetherapeutics.com](mailto:NYRxEO@primetherapeutics.com) from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

The NYRx Education & Outreach team hosts virtual office hours every week for stakeholders to ask questions related to NYRx and care coordination. Visit the [NYRx Education & Outreach website](#) for more information.