

Division of Workers' Compensation Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

April 17, 2024
12:30pm to 2:30pm



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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
George Parisotto, Administrative Director, DWC
- **Approval of Minutes from the January 17, 2024 Meeting**
Dr. Raymond Meister, Executive Medical Director, DWC
- **Physician and Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule Update**
Jackie Schauer, DWC Legal Counsel
- **Discussion:**
 - Capsaicin MTUS product listings – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
 - MTUS Drug Lookup – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
 - Ulcer Drug Category – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
- **Additional Public Comments**
- **Review of Committee Recommendations**
- **Adjourn**

Welcome and Introductions

George Parisotto

Administrative Director, DWC

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Raymond Meister

Executive Medical Director, DWC

Physician and Pharmaceutical Fee Schedule Update

Jackie Schauer

DWC Legal Counsel



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Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Update

- Announcement released February 26, 2024
- 45-day comment period ended April 11, 2024
- Public hearing also occurred on April 11
- DWC is reviewing all comments on the proposed regulations
- If DWC decides to make modifications to the proposed regulations based on comments, an additional 15-day public comment period will occur for review of the modifications
- Proposed regulations and associated documents can be viewed at <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/DWCPropRegs/2024/Pharmaceutical-Fee-Schedule/Index.htm>

Modeling Expanded Capsaicin MTUS Product Listings

J. Kevin Gorospe, PharmD
DWC Consultant



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Capsaicin

- Expanded capsaicin listing to specific products
- Products without an RxCUI were excluded
- Some RxCUIs are for products that are obsolete (no longer on the market)
- Listed capsaicin products are currently Exempt
- List includes
 - Cream 0.025%
 - Cream 0.033%
 - Cream 0.075%
 - Cream 0.1%
 - Patch 0.025%
- Excludes the 8% topical patch as previously discussed

Capsaicin MTUS Listings Added

Drug Ingredient	Reference Brand Name	Exempt/Non-Exempt*	Special Fill	Peri-Op	Drug Class	Reference in ACOEM Guidelines	Route of Administration	Dosage Form	Strength	RxCUI	Comments
capsaicin	Not Applicable	Exempt	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Dermatologicals (Topical creams and ointments)	(R) Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders (R, NR) Chronic Pain (R) Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders (R) Hip and Groin Disorders (R) Low Back Disorders (R, X) Shoulder	TOPICAL	Cream	0.025%	198555	Not Applicable
capsaicin	ZOSTRIX	Exempt	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Dermatologicals (Topical creams and ointments)	(R) Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders (R, NR) Chronic Pain (R) Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders (R) Hip and Groin Disorders (R) Low Back Disorders (R, X) Shoulder	TOPICAL	Cream	0.033%	1803727	Not Applicable
capsaicin	Not Applicable	Exempt	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Dermatologicals (Topical creams and ointments)	(R) Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders (R, NR) Chronic Pain (R) Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders (R) Hip and Groin Disorders (R) Low Back Disorders (R, X) Shoulder	TOPICAL	Cream	0.075%	141868	Not Applicable
capsaicin	ZOSTRIX	Exempt	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Dermatologicals (Topical creams and ointments)	(R) Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders (R, NR) Chronic Pain (R) Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders (R) Hip and Groin Disorders (R) Low Back Disorders (R, X) Shoulder	TOPICAL	Cream	0.1%	646333	Not Applicable
capsaicin	Not Applicable	Exempt	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Dermatologicals (Topical creams and ointments)	(R) Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders (R, NR) Chronic Pain (R) Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders (R) Hip and Groin Disorders (R) Low Back Disorders (R, X) Shoulder	TOPICAL	Patch	0.025%	1043399	Not Applicable

Capsaicin Pricing

- Pricing is from Medi-Cal data
- The price represents the most recent price for a particular NDC based on Medi-Cal program pricing rules
- Important to note
 - Some NDCs have high prices compared to equivalent products because they are not part of the federal Medicaid program and therefore do not have certain pricing benchmarks (e.g. National Average Drug Acquisition Cost or NADAC) in the Medi-Cal pricing data
 - These products typically only have Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) pricing
- Days supply and price per day assumes use of 2 GM of cream, 4 ML of liquid or 1 Patch per day; these values used only for pricing comparison and do not reflect actual product consumption per day
- Price per day is rounded to two decimal places

Capsaicin 0.025% Cream

NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
00536252525	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	60GM		0.07258	\$4.35	30	\$0.15
50268019560	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	60GM		0.07258	\$4.35	30	\$0.15
50488102501	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	120GM		4.35416	\$522.50	60	\$8.71
50488102502	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	25GM		6.90000	\$172.50	12	\$14.38
50488102505	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	50GM		5.83340	\$291.67	25	\$11.67
69420602501	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	120GM		4.25000	\$510.00	60	\$8.50
69420602505	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	50GM		5.70000	\$285.00	25	\$11.40
70645002512	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	120GM		4.39583	\$527.50	60	\$8.79
70645002525	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	25GM		7.00000	\$175.00	12	\$14.58
70645002550	19855	capsaicin	Cream	0.025%	50GM		5.90000	\$295.00	25	\$11.80

Capsaicin 0.033% and 0.075% Cream and 0.15% Liquid

NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
60569044202	1803727	capsaicin	Cream	0.033%	56.6GM		0.19434	\$11.00	28	\$0.39
61787044202	1803727	capsaicin	Cream	0.033%	56.6GM		0.19434	\$11.00	28	\$0.39
NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
00536111825	141868	capsaicin	Cream	0.075%	57GM		0.07509	\$4.28	28	\$0.15
50268019657	141868	capsaicin	Cream	0.075%	57GM		0.07509	\$4.28	28	\$0.15
50488107501	141868	capsaicin	Cream	0.075%	120GM		4.41666	\$530.00	60	\$8.83
NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
41167075180	792051	capsaicin	Liquid	0.15%	29.5ML		0.19627	\$5.79	7	\$0.83
46122011203	792051	capsaicin	Liquid	0.15%	100ML		0.09933	\$9.93	25	\$0.40
87701041143	792051	capsaicin	Liquid	0.15%	30ML		0.09933	\$2.98	7	\$0.43

Capsaicin 0.1% Cream

NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
00536126456	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	42.5	GM	0.19430	\$8.26	21	\$0.39
41167075142	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	42.5	GM	0.20470	\$8.70	21	\$0.41
41167075146	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	42.5	GM	0.20470	\$8.70	21	\$0.41
50268019756	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.15017	\$8.50	28	\$0.30
50268019842	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	42.5	GM	0.19430	\$8.26	21	\$0.39
50488106006	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	60	GM	5.91666	\$355.00	30	\$11.83
60569044302	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.23851	\$13.50	28	\$0.48
60569055602	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.19434	\$11.00	28	\$0.39
61787044302	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.23851	\$13.50	28	\$0.48
61787055602	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.19434	\$11.00	28	\$0.39
69375000660	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.17667	\$10.00	28	\$0.36
70000054901	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	42.5	GM	0.19430	\$8.26	21	\$0.39
72847031620	646333	capsaicin	Cream	0.1%	56.6	GM	0.14222	\$8.05	28	\$0.29

Capsaicin 0.025% Patch

NDC11	RxCUI	Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	PKG Size	Unit of Measure	Price per Unit	Price per Container	Days Supply	Price per Day
46122075355	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	3EA		0.57333	\$1.72	3	\$0.57
46581070003	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	3EA		1.05000	\$3.15	3	\$1.05
50488202501	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		43.83300	\$438.33	10	\$43.83
69420702501	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		43.50000	\$435.00	10	\$43.50
70512001610	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		43.99700	\$439.97	10	\$44.00
71436302501	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		49.50000	\$495.00	10	\$49.50
73086090399	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		37.00000	\$370.00	10	\$37.00
79643000201	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	10EA		48.55000	\$485.50	10	\$48.55
81877051515	1043399	capsaicin	Patch	0.025%	15EA		35.23066	\$528.46	15	\$35.23

Capsaicin Utilization

- Utilization by claim lines is from the July 1, 2022 to Jun 30, 2023 WCIS medical data

Provider Type	Dosage form	Strength	Claim Lines
Pharmacy	Cream	0.025%	681
Pharmacy	Cream	0.075%	47
Pharmacy	Cream	0.1%	903
Pharmacy	Patch	0.025%	392
Pharmacy Totals			2,023

Provider Type	Dosage form	Strength	Claim Lines
Physician	Cream	0.025%	3
Physician	Cream	0.1%	40
Physician	Patch	0.025%	2
Physician Totals			45

Capsaicin Product Considerations

- MTUS lists do not use NDCs and therefore cannot be restrictive (or permissive) at the NDC level
- Capsaicin 0.1% has the highest use (by number of claims)
- Capsaicin 0.025% cream has the highest variation in pricing
- Other capsaicin cream strengths and the topical liquids are primarily under \$1 per day (only 2 products are high priced)
- Patches are primarily high priced
- ACOEM guidelines specifically reference use of capsaicin patches for Chronic Neuropathic Pain

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

MTUS Drug Lookup

J. Kevin Gorospe, PharmD
DWC Consultant



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Drug Lookup Tool (revised)

- As previously discussed, tool was developed in Excel to avoid the need for custom software
- Updated tool uses the entire MTUS List with RxCUIs
- Data was expanded to add a Route of Administration Column to provide an additional option for choosing products
- The tool is keyed to the MDGuidelines Condition Category
 - This means the criteria used to filter are based on the selection of a Condition Category
- Tool redesigned to run off of a single spreadsheet of data
- Still in draft (needs another review of data accuracy)

Condition Categories

Ankle and Foot Disorders	Depressive Disorders	Low Back Disorders
Antiemetics	Elbow Disorders	Opioid
Anxiety	Eye	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Cervical and Thoracic Spine Disorders	Hand, Wrist, and Forearm Disorders	Shoulder
Chronic Pain	Hip and Groin Disorders	Traumatic Brain Injury
COVID-19 Coronavirus	Knee Disorders	

Lookup Tool Use

- As noted, a user first chooses a “Category”
- A table of drugs is generated and the user can then choose other parameters to narrow the list of drug products.
- Table changes dynamically; individual choices can be cleared or they all can be cleared by choosing the appropriate “CLEAR” button
- DEMO

CLEAR FORM

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: Click cell below "Category" to choose a condition from the drop down list.

STEP 2: To narrow the information, choose other parameters by clicking in the blank cells below each parameter title to display drop down lists.

Click "CLEAR" to clear individual selections. Click "CLEAR FORM" button to clear all selections and start over.

Category	CLEAR	ACOEM Reference	CLEAR	Exempt/Non-Exempt	CLEAR	Therapeutic Categories	CLEAR	Route of Administration	CLEAR

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

Ulcer Drug Category

J. Kevin Gorospe, PharmD
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Ulcer Drugs

- Identified drugs on the MTUS list within 3 categories
 - Ulcer Drugs (H2 receptor blocker)
 - Ulcer Drugs (Proton pump inhibitor)
 - Ulcer Drugs
- ACOEM guidelines do not have dose or dosage form specific recommendations
- Utilization (claim lines) is from July 1, 2022 to Jun 30, 2023 WCIS data
- All products were aggregated by drug, dosage form and strength
- Low (generic) and High (brand or brand generic) prices were identified
 - This was done in lieu of an NDC based approach to make the review easier
 - Drug unit prices are from 2/20/2024 Medi-Cal pricing files

Pharmacy Utilization (Top 12)

Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	Claim Lines
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	18,891
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	10,093
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	15 MG	6,797
pantoprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	40 MG	4,497
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	3,928
famotidine	Tablet	20 MG	3,572
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	2,040
famotidine	Tablet	40 MG	1,755
pantoprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	20 MG	1,711
dexlansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	60 MG	1,187
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	30 MG	1,158
omeprazole	Tablet, Delayed Release	20 MG	1,022

Physician Utilization (Top 10)

Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	Claim Lines
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	15 MG	29,319
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	7,584
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	7,053
famotidine	Tablet	20 MG	357
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	30 MG	194
famotidine	Tablet	40 MG	131
rabeprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	20 MG	98
pantoprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	20 MG	71
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	58
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	39

Ulcer Drug Prices

Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	RxCUI	Unit of Measure	Low Price/Unit	High Price / Unit	Units per Day	Price per Day (Low)	Price per Day (High)
cimetidine	Tablet	300 MG	197506	TAB	0.28742	2.60000	4	1.15	10.40
cimetidine	Tablet	400 MG	197507	TAB	0.46538	2.70000	2	0.93	5.40
cimetidine	Tablet	800 MG	197508	TAB	1.02296	2.80000	1	1.02	2.80
cimetidine	Tablet	200 MG	197505	TAB	0.34815	2.50000	4	1.39	10.00
dexlansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	30 MG	833204	CAP	7.64433	9.81915	1	7.64	9.82
dexlansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	60 MG	833213	CAP	6.70458	9.85312	1	6.70	9.85
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	606726	CAP	0.18730	9.17700	1	0.19	9.18
esomeprazole magnesium	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	606730	CAP	0.17280	8.79386	1	0.17	8.79
esomeprazole magnesium	Granules for Suspension	20 MG/PACKET	692576	PACKET	6.71150	9.16267	1	6.71	9.16
esomeprazole magnesium	Granules for Suspension	40 MG/PACKET	692578	PACKET	7.01472	9.15169	1	7.01	9.15

Ulcer Drug Prices

Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	RxCUI	Unit of Measure	Low Price/Unit	High Price / Unit	Units per Day	Price per Day (Low)	Price per Day (High)
famotidine	Powder for Suspension	40 MG/5 ML	310274	PACKET	0.55585	1.98000	1	0.56	1.98
famotidine	Tablet	10 MG	199047	TAB	0.05583	0.10869	4	0.22	0.43
famotidine	Tablet	20 MG	310273	TAB	0.01469	0.39200	2	0.03	0.78
famotidine	Tablet	40 MG	284245	TAB	0.01199	0.01199	1	0.01	0.01
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	15 MG	596843	CAP	0.23252	0.53785	1	0.23	0.54
lansoprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	30 MG	311277	CAP	0.03774	0.03774	1	0.04	0.04
lansoprazole	Tablet Disintegrating, Delayed Release	15 MG	351261	TAB	2.85482	13.83650	1	2.85	13.84
lansoprazole	Tablet Disintegrating, Delayed Release	30 MG	351260	TAB	3.11977	13.83650	1	3.12	13.84
misoprostol	Tablet	100 MCG	311727	TAB	0.47504	4.19200	4	1.90	16.77
misoprostol	Tablet	200 MCG	317128	TAB	0.71757	5.81980	4	2.87	23.28
nizatidine	Capsule	150 MG	312025	CAP	0.95916	0.95916	2	1.92	1.92
nizatidine	Capsule	300 MG	198041	CAP	0.95333	0.95333	1	0.95	0.95

Ulcer Drug Prices

Drug Ingredient	Dosage Form	Strength	RxCUI	Unit of Measure	Low Price/Unit	High Price / Unit	Units per Day	Price per Day (Low)	Price per Day (High)
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	10 MG	199119	CAP	0.09055	0.09055	2	0.18	0.18
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	20 MG	198051	CAP	0.03637	0.03637	1	0.04	0.04
omeprazole	Capsule, Delayed Release	40 MG	200329	CAP	0.05567	0.05567	1	0.06	0.06
omeprazole	Tablet, Delayed Release	20 MG	402014	TAB	0.44671	0.44671	1	0.45	0.45
omeprazole	Tablet Disintegrating, Delayed Release	20 MG	2003656	TAB	0.41127	0.41127	1	0.41	0.41
pantoprazole sodium	For Suspension - Delayed Release	40 MG/Packet	763306	PACKET	12.26927	13.85808	1	12.27	13.86
pantoprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	20 MG	2511872	TAB	0.02058	14.47522	1	0.02	14.48
pantoprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	40 MG	314200	TAB	0.03111	13.90348	1	0.03	13.90
rabeprazole sodium	Tablet, Enteric Coated	20 MG	854868	TAB	0.27932	24.70320	1	0.28	24.70
sucralfate	Suspension	1 GM/10 ML	313123	ML	0.32227	0.78572	40	12.89	31.43
sucralfate	Tablet	1 GM	314234	TAB	0.22409	4.74304	4	0.90	18.97

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

Review of Recommendations

Adjournment