



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **SAIF's First Fill program and conversion to the Oregon Prescription Drug Program**

SAIF Corporation and the Oregon Prescription Drug Program (OPDP) are pleased to announce a First Fill pharmacy program that injured workers may use until a decision has been made regarding their workers' compensation claim. Even though Oregon law does not require SAIF to provide this First Fill benefit, SAIF has elected to provide prescriptions for a limited number of medications for work-related injuries or illnesses that can be billed directly to the OPDP administered by The ODS Companies, SAIF's pharmacy benefits administrator (PBA). In many instances, this should make it easier for the injured worker to get medications needed for recovery, and it should be more convenient for the pharmacy to dispense medications prescribed to a worker prior to claim acceptance.

SAIF will convert to the OPDP as the PBA for worker prescriptions effective March 4. SAIF and OPDP are dedicated to serving the people and businesses of Oregon. By joining OPDP and bringing the First Fill benefit to the Oregon market, SAIF continues its mission to improve Oregon's workers' compensation system by setting the industry standard for affordability, availability, innovation, efficiency, and service quality. Workers who are enrolled with RESTAT will be notified of the change. They will be asked to verify that their pharmacy participates in the OPDP to ensure timely processing of their prescriptions.

#### **When will these changes go into effect?**

The new First Fill benefit and pharmacy benefits administrator (PBA) change will be implemented March 4, 2008.

#### **What drugs are on the First Fill list?**

Please go to the First Fill medication list on the provider link at **saif.com** and keep a copy handy for future reference. This list may be updated periodically.

#### **How were the First Fill drugs chosen?**

We selected the classes of drugs commonly used for the early treatment of work-related injuries. Cost-effective drug options within each class were chosen for coverage. Efficacy and safety evidence was reviewed in making the drug selections.

#### **How will I know if an injured worker is eligible for the First Fill benefit?**

Most injured workers with new claims will be eligible for the benefit. Injured workers who are eligible will receive a letter from SAIF explaining how to use the program. They will need to present the letter to any of the OPDP participating pharmacies to fill their prescription. We are communicating First Fill information to prescribers and pharmacies to encourage them to use the program as appropriate for their patients.

**Will First Fill cover all injured workers prior to claim acceptance?**

In order for an injured worker to be covered under First Fill, SAIF must have a workers' compensation claim on file with an assigned claim number. This is to verify that the worker is actually covered by a SAIF policyholder. SAIF will issue a letter to the worker within 24 hours explaining the First Fill benefit. There will be some workers who will not receive a First Fill letter because their claim is opened and closed on the same day.

Early notification of a claim will help more injured workers qualify for the program. It's important that injured workers, employers, and health care providers notify SAIF as soon as possible when made aware of a new claim. Fax or phone notification to SAIF can get the process started quickly.

**What if the injured worker has a prescription that needs to be filled on the date of injury?**

SAIF is developing a process to handle prescriptions if a claim has been received and the worker has not yet received a First Fill letter.

**What if the drug prescribed is not on the First Fill list?**

First Fill is not intended to cover every drug that may be prescribed for a patient's work-related injury or illness. Drugs not on the First Fill list may still be dispensed for work-related injuries. However, the patient will need to pay for these drugs out of pocket until their claim is accepted.

**What if a worker needs to refill a prescription?**

Workers enrolled in First Fill will be able to get refills on prescriptions for work-related injuries or illnesses.

**Will the costs of the prescriptions be charged to the policy?**

If the claim is accepted, the prescription costs will be charged to the policy, the same as what happens now. If the claim is not accepted, the costs will not be charged to the policy.

**What pharmacies participate in the OPDP?**

A list of the participating pharmacies can be found in the Medical Provider guide on [saif.com](http://saif.com).

**Questions?** Contact Kathy Loretz at [katlor@saif.com](mailto:katlor@saif.com) or Allison Knight at [allkni@saif.com](mailto:allkni@saif.com) if you have additional questions about First Fill or the conversion to the OPDP.