Drug Use Review (DUR) Alert: Additive Toxicity

Description:	The clinical misuse/additive toxicity screen detects potential additive toxicity due to central nervous system (CNS) polypharmacy. This screen identifies when a beneficiary reaches a threshold of four or more active prescriptions within the following therapeutic categories: opioid pain or cough medications, benzodiazepines, skeletal muscle relaxants, other sleep drugs and tranquilizers (non-benzodiazepine), antipsychotic medications, and other selected psychotropic medications with CNS-depressant properties.
Alert(s):	AT – Clinical Misuse/Additive Toxicity
Message(s):	Clinical Misuse/Additive Toxicity
Manual Drug Use Review (DUR) Protocol:	Pharmacists performing DUR manually must maintain beneficiary medication records. Prescriptions for specified target drugs must be screened against the beneficiary's existing medication record to determine if the beneficiary reaches a threshold of four or more active prescriptions within the following therapeutic categories: opioid pain or cough medications, benzodiazepines, skeletal muscle relaxants, other sleep drugs and tranquilizers (non-benzodiazepine), antipsychotic medications, and other selected psychotropic medications with CNS-depressant properties.
References:	*United States Pharmacopeia Drug Information* (USP DI) *American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information* (AHFS DI) Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Global Medi-Cal DUR Board

Note: Proprietary pharmacy software for prescription processing systems may display DUR alerts in different formats. Examples are provided to acquaint the pharmacist with the standard content of Medi-Cal's DUR messages that may be different from the message displayed on the pharmacist's computer terminal.